

THE
LONDON MAGAZINE,
ENLARGED AND IMPROVED,
FOR NOVEMBER, 1784.

PARLIAMENTARY HISTORY.

July 19.

IN the House of Lords, Lord Ferrers opposed the additional duty on candles, as calculated to lay a disproportionate burthen on the labouring poor, and the industrious mechanic. This to him appeared a sufficient objection: but it would also be highly injurious to trade, for unless an additional duty was laid also on imported candles, they might be sold considerably cheaper than those made in the kingdom. In Ireland both the materials and the workmanship were much cheaper; the consequence of which was obvious. The clause respecting excisemen, whom he termed the pests of society, was of a nature still more alarming: that a set of men, of whose character he believed there was but one opinion, should be authorised to enter men's houses at any time, by day or by night, was undoubtedly an infringement on the liberty of the subject, and might be perverted to the most villanous purposes. When the necessities of the state called for taxes, they ought surely to fall rather on the luxuries than on the necessities of life. The resources of this country were still very numerous. Why not inclose the waste lands? They would produce six millions, and employ ten thousand men. Why were silk stockings passed over? They were a luxury that none who used would dispense with, and therefore a fit object for taxation. In lieu of the oppressive impost on candles, he would propose a tax on watches, which, he said, would produce more than the sum wanted.

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Lord Sydney defended the tax by a mode of reasoning not often resorted to in this country. He animadverted on the largeness of the sum expected from it, and the certainty of its proving efficient. That it would be felt by every part of the community appeared to him the best argument in its favour. If the necessities of the state called for taxes, such only ought to be laid as would be productive, and not liable to evasion. If luxuries only were taxed, to contribute to the revenue would be merely optional, and a financier would be unable to make a certain estimate: whereas, by taxing necessities, by imposing such duties as every individual must contribute a share of, he was certain that his scheme would be productive. As to the extension of power given to the excisemen, it had been suggested by the principal persons in the trade, and adopted at their express requisition, to prevent illicit practices, and therefore he did not think that they would consider it as a grievance. The bill passed without a division.

The House of Commons proceeded in the consideration of the India bill, and as almost every clause occasioned some debate, many interesting observations were made, which our limits will not permit us even to touch upon.

July 20. The royal assent was given by commission to the candle duty bill, the bill for continuing the commissioners of accounts, and several inclosure bills.

The House of Lords passed the aliens' duty bill, and a bill for regulating the rate of interest on money

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lent by pawn-brokers, and the term of redemption for pledges.

The House of Commons heard counsel and examined witnesses on a bill, the purport of which was to remove an endowed school to the town of Dorchester, from a village called Abbey Milton, where it was founded in the sixteenth century, by an abbot in that neighbourhood. This village being now in a state of depopulation, Lord Milton, who is lord of the manor, urged its removal as an evident advantage to the institution. The feoffees, in whom the trust was vested, opposed the removal to so great a distance*, as it would deprive the parish of the foundation, for the benefit of which the endowment had been made. The House divided on the commitment of the bill, which was carried.

The House then proceeded on the India bill.

July 21. The Chancellor of the Exchequer presented a message from his Majesty to the House of Commons, intimating, that, notwithstanding the retrenchments already made in the establishment of the civil list, debts to a very considerable amount had been incurred, by the unavoidable expences of the civil government; and relying on the zeal and affection of his Majesty's faithful Commons to take the same into consideration, and provide proper means for their discharge. The message was, as usual, referred to a committee of supply.

Mr. Hussey then rose, to oppose the commitment of a bill for re-investing a property in the original owners of certain lands, for which a former board of Ordnance had applied to parliament to build fortifications on; and to grant a new investment of other lands, in a situation better adapted to the purpose. It appeared to him that the indeterminate manner of applying for investment in this business argued an incompetency in the board of Ordnance to judge what was really of utility or advantage. The propriety of these fortifications, their situation and structure, varied with every administration. He thought, therefore,

the money would be much better applied in strengthening our natural bulwark, our fleet. A hardship existed in the appropriation of these lands, of which the owners justly complained: the value was not ascertained by a jury; and though the proprietors might acquiesce in the disposal of them for the public service, they thought themselves entitled to have the loss they were to sustain appreciated before a proper tribunal.

Mr. T. Luttrell defended the utility of internal fortifications, which, he said, in a future war, would leave our fleets at liberty to annoy the coasts and attack the foreign settlements of the enemy. He produced the opinion of several engineers and officers of the navy on the propriety of fortifying the spot now proposed, where they agreed a landing was practicable. Commissioners were authorised under the bill to rate the value of the lands, which was preferable to leaving it to a jury to determine, who would take into their consideration other circumstances beside the intrinsic worth of the soil. Lord Beauchamp acknowledged the good policy of enabling our navy to spread terror on the coasts of the enemy, but the means proposed he thought very inadequate. He saw other views in the application now made by the Board of Ordnance, who, in whatever they might differ from their predecessors, agreed with them in this, that they would propose some new and expensive undertaking in their department. The reason was obvious. There arose a considerable patronage from the disposal of the contracts and employments which the execution of such plans gave rise to. He concluded with observing, that there was neither an estimate, nor the opinion of any engineer, or other officer, on the table, to guide the proceedings of the House. Mr. Rolle and Mr. Barclay denied the necessity of the intended fortifications, as a landing in that place was impracticable. Mr. Steele said, that the many opinions now offered against the bill were contrary to the confidence which ought to be reposed in the officer

* Ten miles.

ficers belonging to the board, whose situations enabled them to acquire such information as authorised them to ask for the concurrence of the House. The bill was committed without a division.

Mr. Hufsey then proposed, that in case the owners of the lands appropriated were not satisfied with the award of the commissioners for their indemnification, they might have an appeal to a jury impannelled for that purpose. He was supported by Mr. W. Ellis, who observed that the bill made the public and the individual parties in a disposal of property, and also set up one of the parties as judge. This was an over-reach of power, which had neither justice nor necessity to warrant it. Mr. Pitt thought it more equitable, in an affair of this nature, to abide by the determination of some respectable characters, than to trust to the vague opinion of a casual jury, who, from their situation, must in some measure consider themselves as concerned.

The House then proceeded on the India bill. A long conversation took place on the clause which compels every person in the Company's service, on his return from India, to deliver on oath an inventory of his property acquired there. Various exceptions were proposed. Lord North insisted strongly that the clause should either be totally withdrawn, or made general. The whole, he said, was a hardship, but the hardship would be less if there was no distinction. The latter opinion was at length adopted. Sir J. Johnstone proposed extending the clause to all officers in his Majesty's service, but this amendment was rejected.

July 22. The House of Lords heard counsel on the claim of Sir John Griffin Griffin for the barony of Howard de Walden.

In the House of Commons, Mr. Hufsey, conformable to his usual caution in matters that concern the expenditure of the public money, opposed the estimate for the buildings erecting on the scite of Somerset-house. The money, however, was voted.

Mr. Gilbert introduced a bill for

rendering more effectual the act for the regulation of county jails and prisons.

A considerable opposition was made to the brick and tile tax, and an exemption was proposed in favour of those employed in works of inland navigation. Mr. Pitt admitted that the tax required amendment, but that, he said, from the lateness of the present session must be deferred till the next, and as no exemption could be made without giving room for endless evasions, the complaints of individuals must give way to public convenience.

In a committee on the bill to prevent smuggling, Mr. Eden proposed a clause for the remission of all fines due by smugglers to the crown, and in general an indemnity for all penalties incurred previous to passing the act, except for criminal offences. This he meant to operate as an inducement to those who stood indebted to the public on penal statutes to return home, that, free from the terror of suits or imprisonment, they might betake themselves to some honest way of life. The motives and tendency of the clause met with no opposition, but the Attorney-General thought that it ought not to comprehend all descriptions of smugglers. Those who were poor might be objects of pity, and he was ready to forgive them; but those who were building palaces while they were defrauding the revenue ought not to be spared. Mr. Eden thought it would be difficult to draw a line of distinction. He was willing, however, to submit the clause to the modification of the Attorney-General, who undertook to prepare it accordingly.

July 23. The Lords were summoned on a message from his Majesty, the same in substance as that presented to the Commons by the Chancellor of the Exchequer. Lord Sydney moved an address, which was seconded by Lord Morton. The Duke of Manchester and Lord Carlisle made some observations on the propriety of enquiring in what manner so considerable a debt had been incurred. If the sum allotted for the support of the civil list was insufficient, the public was bound to make good the deficiency; but if the debt

arose from other causes, which parliamentary investigation would discover, his Majesty's ministers would be answerable for the deception. To keep up the splendour of the crown in foreign courts it greatly exceeded the income allotted for that service. To that part of the deficiency there could be no objection; but where a minister converted the public money to unjust political purposes, it was requisite to be very cautious. No reply was made, and the address was voted without any dissent.

The House of Commons resolved itself into a committee of supply on his Majesty's message. Mr. Pitt stated, that in the four quarters ending the 5th of April the civil list had incurred a debt of 43,000*l.* as would appear by the accounts which his predecessors in office had left behind them. Besides this sum, there might arise occasion during the recess for further aid. He, therefore, moved for 60,000*l.* at once to discharge the debts already incurred, and to prevent arrears in future. Mr. Montague defended the late board of Treasury, against whom Mr. Pitt said he meant not to infer any blame. He addressed himself chiefly to prove that Mr. Fox's assertion, that no debt had arisen during his administration, was false. Mr. Sheridan stood up in defence of Mr. Fox, who, he said, had made no positive assertion, but had spoken only to the best of his knowledge. The fact was, however, as Mr. Fox had stated it, which, on a proper occasion, he did not doubt to make appear. This brought on a warm altercation, in which Mr. Sheridan, among other things, alluded to the promise made in his Majesty's speech when Lord Shelburne was minister, that the expences of the civil list should not exceed the income. The House did not seem to relish this sort of debate. The debt was incurred, and it was evident must be provided for, whoever might be to blame. The money was, therefore, voted.

The House then went into a committee of ways and means, and Mr. Pitt proposed new taxes to make good

the deficiency from having given up the coal tax, and from the various regulations introduced into the other tax bills, amounting in the whole to 200,000*l.** In addition to these, he proposed a tax of a guinea on every horse entered to run for any plate or other valuable consideration, to which, on the suggestion of Lord Surrey, he added a tax of five guineas on the winning horse. This was afterwards changed to an annual tax of two guineas on all race-horses.

July 26. The report from the committee on the India bill was brought up. It exhibited the unusual number of above a hundred amended clauses, and above twenty entirely new. A bill so completely altered could hardly escape animadversion, as well from those who wished to be thought unprejudiced, as from those who avowed their opposition to the ministry. The bill, it was said, was no longer the bill of the minister, but the bill of the India Company, who had been permitted to alter or expunge whatever they disliked. So many new clauses were added, so many withdrawn, and such material alterations made in those which remained, that not only the provisos but the very principle of the bill was essentially changed. The minister had meanly condescended to abandon his original system to gratify the Company, whose opposition he dreaded, and to conciliate the favour of that secret influence to which he owed his situation, and at whose pleasure he was contented to exercise a delegated authority. These observations were not without their weight. It was happy for the minister that the public in general was not disposed to lend them much attention. Men had been so long accustomed to hear such charges advanced on every occasion, however trivial, that they considered them merely as words of course, or the ravings of disappointed ambition. They had learned from experience, that whatever might be the language of statesmen out of place, all aspired to power from the same motives, and that their measures, invariably directed to the same object,

* See Budget, Mag. for July, p. 77.

object, differed only as they took a colour from the dispositions and habits of those who conducted them.

When the Speaker moved that the amendments be agreed to, Mr. Eden, Mr. Francis, Mr. Sheridan, and Lord North urged a recommitment. This, they said, was not done for the sake of delay, but with a view to amend some of the clauses, and to correct such errors as appeared to have escaped notice, from the manner in which the numerous amendments had been introduced. Nor was it inconsistent with the opposition which they had made to the former commitment, nor the sentiments which they still professed concerning the bill: for though no alteration could make them support it, while it contained either the principle with which it had gone into the committee, or that which had since been introduced into it, since they could not persuade the House to reject it altogether, they felt it incumbent upon them to remove it as far from imperfection as possible, and to render it as beneficial as those who had framed and those who had new modelled it would permit. Of the alterations, some were for the better and some for the worse, almost all of them repugnant to the principles with which it had at first been opened to the House. Add to this, it was filled with inaccuracies, and of the few good clauses contained in it some required elucidation and others modification. These were surely sufficient reasons for recommitting the bill, not to mention the ill tendency of the precedent, in hurrying such a matter through without properly digesting it. It was much to be lamented that the restrictions which the bill in its original form laid upon the Company had been removed. In its present shape it gave not the executive go-

vernment of this country a greater power of controul than it enjoyed already; and there remained an undetermined scope for the operation of those powers to whose management the government of India was to be committed. No limits, or at best very uncertain ones, were laid down to prevent the encroachments of the commissioners on the province of the directors, or of the directors on that of the commissioners. Except, therefore, the clashing of jurisdictions which the bill would establish, and the seeds of division which it would sow, it would make little or no difference in the power of controul with which the secretary of state was vested. The very grounds upon which the bill was built were, that the servants of the Company abroad had disobeyed the orders from home, and that the directors had not sufficient powers to enforce obedience: yet the disobedient servants were not to be called to account, and the directors, instead of being armed with new powers, or made subject themselves to strong powers, were to be left just as they were before. Hence it was easy to see that orders from home would be as little attended to in future as they had hitherto been. That part of the bill which relates to the internal government of India, though the least exceptionable, was not free from objection. But the latter part, for the establishment of a tribunal, which was to wrest the trial by jury from men who claimed it as their birthright, could never be admissible in any shape, and ought to be put in a bill by itself, that it might stand or fall by its own merits. In the apprehension of some gentlemen, who had at first opposed it, this part of the bill was considerably improved by the amendments* made in the committee. But this

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* These amendments, as stated by Mr. Pitt in the committee, were as follow: According to the plan laid down in the bill, a prosecution might be commenced only by the directors or the attorney-general. Instead of this, he proposed that a trial might be moved for by any one in the court of King's-Bench, when the court, after hearing arguments on both sides, would see and determine whether a trial should be granted or not; if the court should grant it, then a commission should issue in that court to take evidence in India, and be directed to the courts of justice in that country, so that the persons might be properly examined before the judges; when the return to the commissioners should have been made into the court of King's-Bench, then, *and not before*, should the House of Commons ballot for the members who should compose the new court: for that purpose there should be two hundred members present to begin the ballot; and each member should give in

ought rather to strengthen the objections against it: for it was to be wished that every measure dangerous to the constitution might appear to the public undisguised, in its natural and most odious colours. It was incapable of being corrected, because the defect was in the essence, not in the form. They deceived themselves grossly who imagined that what was essentially wrong could ever be formally right. But all arguments were useless against power. They did not expect that much attention would be paid to the wishes of gentlemen who sat on their side of the House. Unlike the East-India directors, they were not able to overturn an administration. Unlike the same directors, they were not able to make another ministry recede from their own plan, and give up their original system. They foresaw that they should not prevail in their endeavours to have the bill recommitted. If a British House of Commons consented, in any instance, to abolish the trial by jury, and if the people were insensible of the danger from such a precedent, individuals, who had done their duty, must submit to their share in the mischief which they could not prevent.

Mr. Pitt very briefly replied, that as these arguments referred rather to the principle than to the clauses of the bill, no good reason had been adduced for recommitting it. There were indeed some literal and perhaps some grammatical inaccuracies, but these could easily be rectified by the House. Those who contended for the recommitment had acted the curious and preposterous part of debating the clauses before the bill was committed, and of af-

terwards debating the principle when the clauses only were under consideration, and when, according to the forms of the House, the principle could not be fairly questioned. It was clear, therefore, that nothing would be gained by a recommitment, as the principle and not the regulations would be made the subject of debate. If he was sure of gaining a single vote by gratifying the other side of the House on this occasion, he would not oppose their wishes. But their object was not to amend the bill, but to reject it entirely. They had professed themselves its enemies, whatever alterations it might undergo, as long as the principle remained. But what was this principle, which drew after it such implacable hostility? It was simply this, that the India Company was not to be annihilated, that its rights were to be respected, and that no encroachment was to be made on those rights which was not called for by absolute necessity. He did not wonder that a bill containing such a principle should not meet with the approbation of those who had been advocates for that sweeping bill, that rapid and daring attempt at tyranny and corruption, by which ministers hoped to build their own greatness on the ruins of the Company, and to become independent of every power in the kingdom. The India directors were deeply interested in the regulations of the bill, and had assigned substantial reasons for the alterations they had obtained. But it was not so with the gentlemen on the other side of the House. They called for delay, not for the purpose of amending a bill which in general met with their appro-

bation,

a list of forty names: and, lest the ballot might be thought to be managed by any court influence, every name which should be found in twenty lists should be put into a glass; and the first forty drawn out of it should be those out of which six should be chosen to sit as judges. Every thing after this should be conducted as in cases of special juries: a day should be appointed in the Court of Exchequer, on which day the forty members, whose names had been so drawn out of the glass, should attend the court: to the accused should be allowed a peremptory challenge of twenty names; and afterwards both parties should be allowed to strike off a name alternately, until the remaining twenty should be reduced to six; and these six should form part of the court: in order that every thing might be conducted with the greatest impartiality, he would disqualify from serving in the court, or indeed from being ballotted for at all, every servant of the crown holding a place during pleasure: as to the common law judges, who should assist on this occasion, he would not propose that the King should name them, as he had formerly intended, but that each court should choose one of its judges, and the four so chosen should be members of the new tribunal: this, with some provisions for making the correspondence of the Company's servants admissible evidence, though impeachable as to the truth of the facts stated in it, formed the outline of the plan for the new court of judicature.

bation, but in order to gain time, in hopes that they might be able to defeat it. The question on the report was then put and carried, and the House agreed to the various amendments.

July 27. The Chancellor of the Exchequer informed the House that he had intended to bring forward a bill for regulating our commercial interest in the West-Indies; but finding from the best information that the reports which stated our possessions in that quarter as calling for instant relief were altogether without foundation, he would, with the permission of the House, postpone it till next session. He, therefore, moved for leave to bring in a bill to authorise his Majesty to continue for a longer time the intercourse between Great-Britain and America. This met with no opposition.

July 28. The report from the committee on the bill for laying an additional tax on hackney-coaches was brought up, with some new clauses, by which coach-masters are entitled to 14s. 6d. instead of 12s. per day, and a proportional addition of fare when hired by the hour or by distance.

The Attorney-General moved for leave to bring in a bill to enable the keepers of prisons, and other places where convicts for transportation are confined, to employ such convicts in labour; and also to enable the judges to transport such convicts to places not in his Majesty's dominions. This, he said, the state of the prisons throughout the kingdom rendered absolutely necessary. The House then resolved itself into a committee, and Mr. Pitt proposed some alterations in the terms on which he intended to treat with the holders of Navy and Ordnance bills. These were an addition of one per cent. to each class of the former, and to the latter interest on their debts after they were fifteen months due.

Mr. Fox and Mr. Hufsey objected to this proposition, as not being optional, nor a fair equivalent. The new fund at five per cent. was not higher than 91l. and yet those who held bills, which ought then to be in course of payment, were obliged either

to take this fund at 93l. by which they would lose two per cent. or wait for an indeterminate day of payment.

Lord North wished Mr. Fox not to take the sense of the committee on it, as that might be attended with disagreeable consequences. A resolution had passed the committee on a former day for granting much less advantageous terms to the bill-holders than those now offered. If this resolution, therefore, should be negatived, the former would remain in force, to which probably the bill-holders would not agree, and then they would expect to be paid at par, to the great inconvenience of the public. The question was then put and carried.

Mr. Pitt then proposed, in lieu of the tax upon ribbands, a duty on raw silk imported, at the rate of three shillings on every pound of twenty-four ounces, and a duty on thrown silk imported of two shillings on every pound of sixteen ounces.

He then proposed the different regulations in the hat tax, the horse tax, and that part of the Post-office bill which restricts the privilege of franking letters to its original limits, which were severally agreed to.

The India bill being then brought in for the third reading, Mr. Burke observed, that from the manner in which the bill was framed, it appeared that no credit was given to the voluminous reports of the secret and select committees, and that the minister had adopted the opinion of a great law lord, that they were mere fables. For his part, he was ready to declare that if false they were worse than fables, they were bold and daring calumnies, and he himself was a bold calumniator of characters that deserved the greatest praise. He wished, therefore, for an opportunity to determine whether the reports spoke truth, or were infamous libels on the characters of innocent men. Those who thought them libels would rejoice at proving it to the world; he was ready to maintain the truth of the reports, and challenged them to the trial. The reports consisted not of charges unsupported by evidence: for every charge there was a voucher

a voucher taken from the Company's own records, which nothing could controvert. He was surprised that a learned gentleman, who had been president of the committee of secrecy, had heard his labours vilified with such philosophic composure; but he was astonished to find that the same learned gentleman, who had moved for the recall of Mr. Hastings, had since declared in full parliament that he had many virtues. The private virtues of a public man were not fit subjects for discussion. It was not the domestic virtues of the man that ought to screen the plundering and exterminating governor. He concluded with moving that the House resolve itself into a committee to consider the reports of the secret and select committees. Mr. Dundas denied that he had ever said Mr. Hastings had many virtues. His private virtues were of little consequence. He had said that he was a mixed character, in which much good and much bad was to be found. He was certainly to blame for many things; but he who could not see the features of a great statesman in the negotiations for the late peace must shut his eyes to truth and conviction. He concluded with moving the order of the day. Mr. Burke wished the learned gentleman joy of the mixed character, under favour of which he was endeavouring to make a retreat. For his own part, he would not build a golden bridge to facilitate his escape—on the contrary, he would hiss and revile the flying enemy. He then launched forth into a recapitulation of the enormities committed by Mr. Hastings, charging him in the most animated and pointed language with deliberate cruelty, murder, and rapine; with having ravaged whole provinces, and exterminated the natives by famine and the sword; with having stripped princes and princesses of their habitations and possessions; and with having reduced the country of the Rohillas, the most fertile and cultivated spot in the world, to waste and desolation. The motion for the order of the day was carried, and the bill was read a third time and passed.

July 29. It was carried up to the Lords, read a first time, and an order made for the second reading on Monday.

July 30. The royal assent was given by commission to nine public and eight private bills.

This business being over, Lord Carlisle complained of the clandestine and precipitate manner of proceeding on the India bill, and moved to discharge the order for reading it a second time on Monday, and to appoint a more distant day, that there might be time sufficient for the mature consideration of so important a measure. He was seconded by Lord Stormont, and opposed by Lord Sydney, the Duke of Richmond, and the Lord Chancellor, who argued that the advanced period of the session did not admit of delay, and that little further consideration could be necessary on a subject that had been so long and so generally under discussion. It was pleasant enough to see that the contending parties, having now changed places, those who on Mr. Fox's bill had pleaded so successfully for mature and deliberate consultation now urged the necessity of dispatch. The motion for discharging the order was negatived, only the Dukes of Portland and Manchester, Lords Carlisle and Stormont dividing for it.

In the House of Commons the bill for laying an additional tax on windows, in lieu of the duties on tea, was presented, and read a first time.

Mr. Powys presented a petition from the ancient inhabitants of Quebec, stating, that at the capture of that place they were promised that the British constitution should be established; that they had therefore cheerfully submitted, and expected the royal word would have been kept. They now prayed to have the benefit of the *Habeas Corpus* act, and of juries, &c. He made some remarks on the importance of the subject, and hoped his Majesty's ministers would be prepared to bring it forward for consideration early in the next session.

The House resolved itself into a committee of ways and means, and

Mr. Rose moved, in lieu of the duty on wax candles, which afforded occasion for smuggling, a tax of three pence per pound avoirdupois on all wax candles made, a duty of two pence per pound on spermaceti candles made, and two pence per pound on all wax imported.

Mr. Burke entered again upon the delinquencies of Mr. Hastings, whose avowed policy, he said, it was to inculcate into the minds of those over whom he presided, that in all his actions, however extravagant or repugnant to justice, he was supported by those under whose authority he acted. He then read an extract from some of Mr. Hastings's letters, in which he acknowledged that he availed himself of such an expedient. Thus, while he was ravaging countries, depopulating provinces, plundering towns, and consigning whole nations to destruction, he was holding forth the authority of those who employed him, as a sanction to his outrages—the authority of those to whom the British nation had committed its reputation and its philanthropy. He had also been informed that Almas Ali Cawn, a man of consequence, and obnoxious only on account of his wealth, had been seized and put to death, without trial or condemnation. When the plunder which had been thus reaved from this Soubah of Oude was exhausted, it remained only to strip his mother and grandmother, to complete the enormity of the action. He, therefore, moved for copies of all papers relative to the seizing and putting to death of Almas Ali Cawn, a native of the province of Oude. Mr. Sheridan seconded the motion. Mr. Pitt had no objection, though he could not see the tendency of it, and it was agreed to. Mr. Burke next moved for copies of all papers relative to the sums of money demanded of the mother and grandmother of the Soubah of Oude in the year 1782. This was seconded by Mr. Scott. Mr. Burke again moved for the produce of the sale of the jewels and other property taken from the mother and grandmother of the Soubah of Oude. Mr. Pitt objected to

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this motion, as he could neither see to what it tended, nor who was to furnish the papers. Mr. Burke pointed out the cruelty that had been practised on these females, merely because they were possessed of property, which Mr. Hastings had seized, as he pretended, for the Company, but 300,000*l.* had not been accounted for. Mr. Pitt moved the order of the day. Mr. Burke, irritated at the abrupt manner in which this was done, proceeded with unusual vehemence, appealing to the feelings of the House in the most pathetic manner, and reminding them that there was a God, who saw their proceedings, and punished iniquity not always in the place where it had been committed, but in other parts of the empire. That we might attribute the loss of America, and the misery at home, to the vengeance of heaven for our evil and corrupt dealings with the innocent natives of Hindostan. Here was a charge of robbery and murder ready to be proved, and when the point was just so far attained as to fix it where it ought to be fixed, the minister stepped forth with the order of the day to shield the delinquent. If his charges were well founded, the wrongs of Asia, and the character of the British nation called for a victim. If they were false and libellous, in justice to Mr. Hastings they ought to be refuted. Since his enquiries were over-ruled, he would resign them to a period more favourable to truth and justice. The world would judge between those who shrunk from an investigation of their conduct and him who challenged them to the proof.

The House then went into a committee on the India relief bill. The blank for the sum due by the Company to the public, and for the payment of which further time was to be given, was filled up with the sum of 923,519*l.* To this clause Mr. Dempster proposed an amendment, that the Company should pay interest at the rate of five per cent. per annum. As government was obliged to pay interest for the money borrowed in lieu of this sum, it was but just that the Company should pay equal interest. This was

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seconded

seconded by Mr. Hussey, who added, that the House had no right to levy taxes to pay for money lent to the Company. Mr. Pitt pleaded the inability of the Company. The payment of the principal was forborne for their relief, and to demand interest would in a great measure defeat the intent of the bill. Alderman Watson was more ingenious. He proposed to set off victualling the King's ships in India, and carrying out naval and military stores against the interest! The Solicitor-General laid hold of this conceit with great eagerness, which, he said, would have determined him, had he entertained any doubts before. Seve-

ral other members spoke. The influence of the Company prevailed, and the amendment, equitable as it seemed, was negatived. As a counterpart to this, the dividend was continued at eight per cent. on pretext that to lower it would induce foreigners, who hold great part of the India stock, to sell out, a circumstance which might affect the credit of the Company to a greater extent than could be foreseen. This latter clause is a sufficient comment on the former. Who does not see whence this extraordinary indulgence to the Company at the expence of the public proceeded?

IRISH INTELLIGENCE.

LETTER FROM THE RIGHT HON. WILLIAM PITT, TO JOHN CAMPBELL WHITE, ESQ. CHAIRMAN OF THE BELFAST MEETING.

S I R,

I Received some time since a letter from you, as chairman of a meeting of the inhabitants of Belfast, accompanying a petition, which they were desirous that I should present to his Majesty.

I am extremely sorry that the variety of business in which I was at that time engaged has prevented my returning you a more immediate answer. As my presenting the petition might be supposed to imply that I approved of its contents, I am under the necessity of declining it, and of explaining my reason for doing so. The prayer of the petition seems to me to proceed upon the supposition of the present constitution being actually dissolved, and calls upon the King to exercise a discretionary power of *new-modelling* the frame of parliament, which I think totally inconsistent with the security of public liberty.

Brightbelmston, Sept. 6, 1784.

I have undoubtedly been, and still continue a zealous friend to a reform of parliament; but I must beg leave to say, that I have been so on grounds very different from those adopted in this petition. What is there proposed I consider as tending to produce still greater evils than any which the friends of reform are desirous to remedy or prevent. I feel great concern in differing so widely on this subject from a body of men who profess to be guided by motives of loyalty, and of reverence of the constitution. But, guided by the same motives, and sincerely anxious for the prosperity and freedom of every part of the British empire, I have thought it my duty to state to you my sentiments fairly and explicitly, and I must beg the favour of you, Sir, to communicate them to the gentlemen by whose desire you wrote. I am, Sir, &c.

W. PITT.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM DUBLIN, SEPT. 21.

"YESTERDAY there was a most numerous and respectable meeting of the freemen and freeholders of this city at the Tholsel, in order to appoint five delegates to represent them in National Congress, on Monday the

25th of October next, when the high sheriffs came forward, and produced a letter from the King's attorney-general, which they had just received, disapproving of such appointment of delegates, and avowing his determination

ion to prosecute the sheriffs at common law, if they permitted the delegates to be chosen. This letter was, they said, of that tendency, as to make it necessary for them to obtain the best legal opinions on the subject, for their direction, which should be done as speedily as possible, and laid before their fellow-citizens; but there was not

then any lawyer of eminence in town, on whose opinion they could rely. The meeting then adjourned without the chair being taken, and of course without any of the zealous agitators and friends of a parliamentary reform offering their sentiments upon the occasion."

The following letter was written by William Todd Jones, Esq. member of parliament for the borough of Lisburne, in the county of Antrim, in Ireland. The occasion of it was this:—At the last review at Belfast, an address was moved by Mr. Jones to the Earl of Charlemont, the last paragraph of which was in favour of an extension of the right of suffrage at elections to the Roman Catholics, which paragraph drew from Lord Charlemont the famous answer which has since made so much noise in Ireland, in which he entirely disapproved of any such measure in favour of the Catholics. Mr. Jones thought himself called upon by the Earl's answer to publish the following letter, in justification of the principles contained in the address relative to that body of men:

TO THE VOLUNTEERS REVIEWED AT BELFAST ON THE
12th OF JULY.

GENTLEMEN,

HAVING had the honour, as exercising officer, of moving your late address to the Earl of Charlemont, I beg leave to offer a few thoughts to your consideration, on the sentiment expressed in its last paragraph. I am induced to do so from being informed I am censured for introducing what is deemed a delicate subject to the attention of that irreproachable character; and because, having *no object* separate from the general good, I feel no private allurements to take any step in the narrow path of *my* public conduct in which I am not preceded or seconded by you.

That the Catholics ought to participate in the privileges of citizens, and that the friends of independence should promote their emancipation, appear to me incontrovertible positions. For what is patriotism? It is to consult for the happiness of the majority of our fellow-subjects; and to guard against a sacrifice of the interests of MANY to those of the FEW. Hence arises our disapprobation of the usurped influence of the aristocracy; and hence the desire and duty to liberate the Catholics. If any man can dispassionately resolve that the Protestants, a tenth part of the inhabitants of this

island, ought of right to govern with their present despotic sway the Catholics, who are the remaining nine, he is both inconsistent and unreasonable to demand from the borough interest a relinquishment of their privileges, inasmuch as he condemns in another the usurpation he vindicates in himself. Both claims are founded in original injustice, and both are maintained by the same lawless tenure—the power of doing wrong.

When we are told by great authorities, that an union with Catholics is a dangerous expedient, we ought anxiously to enquire by what mode they propose to accomplish a *Reform of Parliament* without their co-operation; and, admitting that object to be already obtained, *what plan of subjection* they have arranged, to restrict and regulate, in future, a body of men who are now competent to possess land in fee in unlimited extent, but who must nevertheless be still confined to their present vassalage, unprivileged, unemancipated, legislated for, and taxed by others; and only indulged at the will of their lords, a precarious, unmanly, despicable existence in the bosom of their parent country: but without their concurrence, I believe, we shall not

obtain an *unequivocal* representation of the people in parliament; and without their participation we do not, I fear, deserve to possess it.

Perhaps some gentlemen will reply, that the reform is *not at hand*: and that, better than liberate and repose confidence in the Catholics, affairs ought at present to remain as they are, and we should await a more favourable juncture to strike off our own shackles, and to rivet their's. But affairs *cannot remain* as they are. While the people are pondering on this speculative division, the controulers of their liberty are alert and vigilant to seize every opportunity for increasing their own emoluments and power, till it may soon be impossible to eradicate either. Places of profit under the crown are hourly increasing; and every day discloses some new tax which is to provide for the wages of prostitution, while parliaments themselves, instead of being checks on ministerial depredation, have been hastening to become the mere out-works of a court—a Roman senate, in the imperial times, to afford the semblance of free government, but in reality to accomplish the wicked schemes of every profligate junto.—Our situation is that of a ship at sea in a storm; the harbour in view, and, with industry, attainable; but the crew divided by a ridiculous feud, and the vessel perishing from their want of co-operation.

The Catholics of Ireland challenge the page of history, and the living authorities of their opponents, for the evidences to prove, that zeal for their religion ever influenced them to sacrifice the liberties of their country; but the records of their misfortunes bear testimony to their patriotism. True, indeed, licentious marauders from other shores had the hardiness to attempt, and the address to succeed, in embroiling this island, for their personal profit; substituting their private cause as a national object; and securing estates under the mask of reformation. It was necessary they should vilify the *victims* of their rapacity; but let it be our glory to obliterate the calumny.

Is it for the favours heaped by Wil-

liam on this deluded country that the Catholics are to be deemed odious, because they were his opponents? Is it for compelling James II, to recognize and ratify an Irish Bill of Rights; a repeal of the law of Poynings, and an abrogation of writs of error and appeal to Great-Britain, that their children are to be considered as incapable of freedom? Is it for adhering to the old constitution, and monarchical form of government, in resistance to the fanatics, and the usurping Cromwell, that the friends of our sovereign reject their co-operation? Or are they now to be cast off with distrust and jealousy, because we are so powerful without their aid; and have last winter received such *testimonies of respect* from that branch of the legislature which we petitioned for a reform, according to a plan *from which they were excluded*?

And here permit me to enquire what was the fate of that Bill of Rights; repeal of Poynings; and abrogation of writs of error, so spiritedly obtained by the last Catholic parliament which sat in this kingdom? All these immunities were ravished from us by the revolution parliaments of Great-Britain, and tamely submitted to by every successive Protestant Irish parliament at home, till lately restored under the auspices of the volunteers. But you cannot require a remembrancer to recall these things to your recollection, nor arguments to enforce that the kingdom which is united can *command* virtuous liberty; but divided against itself *it cannot stand*.

The idea of an extension of the right of suffrage to Catholics has been denominated the dream of enthusiasm; an innovation on the constitution; and an experiment in politics. But is general toleration the characteristic of irrational zeal; or an oblivion of religious distinctions the test of enthusiasm. Can that be to innovate on the constitution which restores the rights of citizens to men who first created the constitution, and afterwards, when impaired, laboured with success to restore it? Was it not *more like an experiment in politics* to limit the rights of citizenship for a hundred years past to so

very

very decided a minority of the inhabitants of this kingdom as the Protestants? And how has the experiment succeeded? Is even that minority free? —No, your efforts for a reformation evince the galling of your fetters.

Has it never occurred to the opponents of the Catholics, that an inattention to their interests, and a rejection of their friendship, may naturally create in them a distaste to our party; and that a politic administration, by well-timed overtures, might possibly induce them to declare against our projects, and to pledge themselves to government to counteract a reform. If any measure so fatal could be accomplished by the oligarchy, there would be at once a declaration of nine-tenths of the people of Ireland against the favourite measure of the freeholders and volunteers.

Let it be granted that the Protestant army of the people restored the independence of the Irish legislature: but when that demand was made on Britain, it was vehemently seconded by the aristocracy itself, because that body composes the two Houses of Parliament, and its *immediate interest* and consequence, therefore, was more at stake than that of the commonalty at large, who, however they might imagine they elected the Commons, had, in effect, very little concern in their returns. But what is your object now? It is a demand upon that very aristocracy to relinquish their assumed privileges, by restoring the right of election to the people; this they have already peremptorily refused, and the denial is abetted by the minister of Great-Britain. Another ally is therefore necessary; and where will you naturally turn your eyes, but towards your suffering brethren and peaceful fellow-subjects, who, like yourselves, feel captivity, and would willingly, with you, break their bondage, and be free.

Protestant America receives liberty by the interposition of the Catholic French; and Catholic Portugal selects Great-Britain as an ally from among the kingdoms of Europe: and is it credible or possible that the same good

policy and mutual convenience will not aid natural affection in inducing the Irish Catholic to unite with his Protestant neighbour in guarding the soil, extending the commerce, and preserving the liberties of an island, in which both shall have an equal participation; which equally contains their dearest stakes, and which is separated by the ocean, that most permanent boundary of nations, from an intimate union with any other kingdom? But no such prospect opens on Ireland! over whose devoted land the demon of despotism in earliest ages pronounced, “You shall ever be a feudatory to the nations that surround you; not by your inferior courage, abilities, or riches, but by domestic jealousy, and intestine divisions;” and such a prophecy we seem determined to fulfil, declining to embrace the only measure that shall at once expand us from a province to a kingdom. In former ages the policy of France raised and cherished intestine discord in Britain, till the treachery was seen through, and prosperity followed union. But we aid our enemies in their favourite object, and light the torch for our own conflagration.

As the American league with the French monarch afforded to men desirous of saving appearances among their countrymen, but who did not feel the genuine flame of liberty, a plausible pretext to desert her standard, so might the Catholic question hold out at present a very commodious retreat. I trust there are none such, and I do not any where apply it, because I have neither inclination nor interest to calumniate any man; and because I feel too high a veneration for the stock of public virtue among us, rashly to impeach or diminish the store: the most truly virtuous are liable to prejudice; and men slow to be persuaded are most firm and constant after conviction. For myself, having no private views of aggrandizement, present or remote, which I am to accomplish by the aid of any parliamentary party, I must value the coincidence of sentiment of all individuals there, only as it accords with my conviction and sense of duty; and acting

acting in the House of Commons by a delegated trust, I shall take no step in so important an affair without the instructions or concurrence of my constituents. But, as an unambitious individual, I shall, with modest firmness, adhere to the sentiment that dictates

this address, though it should become the most unpopular of opinions.

I am, with great respect,
Gentlemen,

Your most faithful humble servant,

W. T. JONES.

Lisburn, Aug. 14, 1784.

(To be continued.)

C H E M I S T R Y.

EXPERIMENTS ON AIR, BY HENRY CAVENDISH, ESQ. F. R. S.
AND S. A.

Read January 15, 1784.

(Continued from page 260.)

IN a paper lately read before the Society, Mr. WATT supposed water to consist of dephlogisticated air and pure phlogiston *deprived of part of their latent heat*. Mr. Cavendish takes no notice of the latter circumstance, because he thinks it more likely that there is no such thing as elementary heat, and because saying so in this instance, without using similar expressions in speaking of other chemical unions, of which there are very few that are not attended with some increase or diminution of heat, would lead to false ideas.

There is the utmost reason to think, that dephlogisticated and phlogisticated air, as M. LAVOISIER and SCHEELÉ suppose, are quite distinct substances, and not differing only in their degree of phlogistication; and that common air is a mixture of the two; for if the dephlogisticated air is pretty pure, almost the whole of it loses its elasticity by phlogistication, and, as appears by the foregoing experiments, is turned into water, instead of being converted into phlogisticated air. In most of the foregoing experiments, at least $\frac{1}{7}$ th of the whole was turned into water; and by treating some dephlogisticated air with liver of sulphur, Mr. Cavendish has reduced it to less than $\frac{1}{30}$ th of its original bulk. The standard of this air was 4.8, and consequently the standard of perfectly pure dephlogisticated air should be very nearly 5, which is a confirmation of the foregoing opinion; for if the standard

of pure dephlogisticated air is 5, common air must, according to this opinion, contain one-fifth of it, and, therefore, ought to lose one-fifth of its bulk by phlogistication, which is what it is actually found to lose.

There seemed great reason to think, from Dr. PRIESTLEY'S experiments, that both the nitrous and vitriolic acids were convertible into dephlogisticated air, as that air is procured in the greatest quantity from substances containing those acids, especially the former. The foregoing experiments, however, seem to shew that no part of the acid is converted into dephlogisticated air, and that their use in preparing it is owing only to the great power which they possess of depriving bodies of their phlogiston. A strong confirmation of this is, that red precipitate, which is one of the substances yielding dephlogisticated air in the greatest quantity, and which is prepared by means of the nitrous acid, contains in reality no acid. This was found by grinding 400 grains of it with spirits of fal ammoniac, and keeping them together for some days in a bottle, taking care to shake them frequently. The red colour of the precipitate was rendered pale, but not entirely destroyed; being then washed with water and filtered, the clear liquor yielded on evaporation not the least ammoniacal salt.

It is natural to think, that if any nitrous acid had been contained in the red precipitate, it would have united to the volatile alkali, and have formed ammoniacal

ammoniacal nitre, and would have been perceived on evaporation; but in order to determine more certainly whether this would be the case, some of the same solution of quicksilver from which the red precipitate was prepared was dried with a less heat, so that it acquired only an orange colour, and the same quantity of it was treated with volatile alkali as before. It immediately caused an effervescence, changed the colour to grey, and yielded 52 grains of ammoniacal nitre. Hence Mr. Cavendish concludes, that red precipitate contains no nitrous acid; consequently, that in procuring dephlogisticated air from it, no acid is converted into air; and by analogy that no such change is produced in procuring it from any other substance.

He next considers in what manner these acids act in producing dephlogisticated air. The way in which the nitrous acid acts, in the production of it from red precipitate, he thinks to be as follows: On distilling the mixture of quicksilver and spirit of nitre, the acid comes over, loaded with phlogiston, in the form of nitrous vapour, and continues to do so till the remaining matter acquires its full red colour, by which time all the nitrous acid is driven over, but some of the watery part still remains behind, and adheres strongly to the quicksilver; so that the red precipitate may be considered, either as quicksilver deprived of part of its phlogiston, and united to a certain portion of water, or as quicksilver united to dephlogisticated air; after which, on further increasing the heat, the water in it rises deprived of its phlogiston, that is, in the form of dephlogisticated air, and at the same time the quicksilver distils over in its metallic form.

In procuring dephlogisticated air from nitre, the acid acts in a different manner, as, upon heating the nitre red-hot the dephlogisticated air rises mixed with a little nitrous acid, and

at the same time the acid remaining in the nitre becomes very much phlogisticated; which shews that the acid absorbs phlogiston from the water in the nitre, and becomes phlogisticated, while the water is thereby turned into dephlogisticated air. On distilling 3155 grains of nitre in an unglazed earthen retort, it yielded 256,000 grain measures of dephlogisticated air*, the standard of different parts of which varied from 3 to 3.65, but at a medium was 3.35. The matter remaining in the retort dissolved readily in water, and tasted alkaline and caustic. On adding diluted spirit of nitre to the solution, strong red fumes were produced; a sign that the acid in it was very much phlogisticated, as no fumes whatever would have been produced on adding the same acid to a solution of common nitre; that part of the solution also which was supersaturated with acid became blue; a colour which the diluted nitrous acid is known to assume when much phlogisticated. The solution, when saturated with this acid, lost its alkaline and caustic taste, but yet tasted very different from true nitre, seeming as if it had been mixed with sea-salt, and also required much less water to dissolve it; but on exposing it for some days to the air, and adding fresh acid as fast as by the flying off of the fumes the alkali predominated, it became true nitre, unmixed, as far as could be perceived, with any other salt†.

Hence it appears, that there is a considerable difference in the manner in which the acid acts in the production of dephlogisticated air from red precipitate and from nitre; in the former case the acid comes over first, leaving the remaining substance deprived of part of its phlogiston; in the latter the dephlogisticated air comes first, leaving the acid loaded with the phlogiston of the water from which it was formed.

Dephlogisticated air seems to be produced from turbith mineral nearly in the same manner as from red precipitate,

* This is, about eighty-one grain measures from one grain of nitre; and the weight of the dephlogisticated air, supposing it 800 times lighter than water, is one tenth of that of the nitre. In all probability it would have yielded a much greater quantity of air, if a greater heat had been applied.

† This phlogistication of the acid in nitre by heat has been observed by Mr. Scheele; see his Experiments on Air and Fire, p. 45. English translation.

tate, and in all probability the vitriolic acid acts in the same manner in the production of dephlogisticated air from allum, as the nitrous does in producing it from nitre.

There is another way by which dephlogisticated air has been found to be produced in great quantities, namely, the growth of vegetables exposed to the sun or day-light; the rationale of which, in all probability, is, that plants, when assisted by the light, deprive part of the water sucked up by their roots of its phlogiston, and turn it into dephlogisticated air, while the phlogiston unites to, and forms part of, the substance of the plant.

In support of this hypothesis, Mr. Cavendish adduces several circumstances, particularly some observations of Mr. SENEBIER, to shew that light has a remarkable power in enabling one body to absorb phlogiston from another.

Vegetables, he thinks, consist almost entirely of fixed and phlogisticated air, united to a large proportion of phlogiston and some water, since by burning in the open air, in which their phlogiston unites to the dephlogisticated part of the atmosphere, and forms water, they seem to be reduced almost entirely to water and those two kinds of air. Now, plants growing in water without earth can receive nourishment only from the water and air, and must, therefore, in all probability, absorb their phlogiston from the water. It is known also that plants growing in the dark do not thrive well, and grow in a very different manner from what they do when exposed to the light.

Hence it seems likely that the use of light, in promoting the growth of plants and the production of dephlogisticated air from them, is, that it enables them to absorb phlogiston from the water. To this it may perhaps be objected, that though plants do not thrive well in the dark, yet they do grow, and should, therefore, according to this hypothesis, absorb water from the atmosphere, and yield dephlogisticated air, which they have not been found to do. But it remains to be shewn that plants growing in the dark, in water alone, will increase in

size, without yielding dephlogisticated air.

There are several memoirs of M. LAVOISIER, published by the Academy of Sciences, in which he entirely discards phlogiston, and explains those phenomena which have been usually attributed to the loss or attraction of that substance, by the absorption or expulsion of dephlogisticated air. Mr. Cavendish shews how his experiments may be explained on this principle, and assigns his reasons for having adhered to that which is commonly received.

Remarks on Mr. Cavendish's Experiments on Air. In a Letter from Richard Kirwan, Esq. F. R. S. to Sir Joseph Banks, Bart. P. R. S.

Read Feb. 5, 1784.

As some of Mr. Cavendish's deductions in the above paper are contrary to those laid before the Society by Mr. Kirwan about two years ago, Mr. Kirwan in this letter combats Mr. Cavendish's hypothesis, and supports his own by much acute reasoning and a multitude of arguments, drawn from his own experiments, and the observations of the most eminent chemists and inquirers into the nature and properties of air.

In a paper read in April, 1782, Mr. Kirwan attributed the diminution of respirable air, observed in common phlogistic processes, to the generation and absorption of fixed air, which, he observes, is now known to be an acid, and capable of being absorbed by several substances. That fixed air was some how or other produced in phlogistic processes, either by *separation* or *composition*, he took for granted, from the numerous experiments of Doctor Priestley; and among these he selected, as least liable to objection, the calcination of metals, the decomposition of nitrous by mixture with respirable air, the phlogistication of respirable air by the electric spark, and, lastly, that effected by amalgamation. In each of these instances Mr. Cavendish is of opinion that the diminution of respirable air is owing to the production of water, which, according to him, is formed by the union of the phlogiston, disengaged

disengaged in those processes, with the dephlogisticated part of common air; and that fixed air is never produced in phlogistic processes, except some animal or vegetable substance is concerned in the operation, from whose decomposition it may arise. He then proceeds to elucidate to which of these causes the diminution of respirable air is to be attributed.

Of the Calcination of Metals.

Mr. Kirwan attributes the diminution of air by the calcination of metals to the conversion of the dephlogisticated part of common air into fixed air, by reason of its union with the phlogiston of the metal, because he finds it acknowledged on all hands that the calces of all the base metals yield fixed air, when sufficiently heated. Mr. Cavendish allows the fact in general, but ascribes the fixed air found in them to their long exposure to the atmosphere, in which, he says, fixed air pre-exists; but that it exists in common air in any quantity worth attending to, or is extracted from it in any degree, Mr. Kirwan denies, and from a variety of facts too long to be extracted and which cannot be abridged, concludes that the quantity of fixed air contained in the atmosphere is absolutely inappreciable.

Secondly, supposing the atmosphere to contain a very small quantity of fixed air, yet Mr. Kirwan does not think it can be inferred that metals, during their calcination, extract any, because he does not find that lime exposed to red heat ever so long extracts any, though it is formed by a calcination in open air, which lasts at least as long as that of any metal; neither does precipitate *per se* attract any, though its calcination lasts several months; nor does this proceed from the want of affinity, for if a saturate solution of mercury in any of the acids be precipitated by a mild vegetable alkali, very little effervescence is perceived, and the precipitate weighs much more than the quantity of mercury employed, and this increase of weight he afterwards shews arises in part from the fixed air absorbed.

Since then metals may be calcined

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in close vessels, since they then absorb one fourth part of the common air to which they are exposed, since all metallic calces, except that of mercury, which is afterwards mentioned, yield fixed air, since common air contains scarce any fixed air, is it not apparent that the fixed air thus found was generated by the very act of calcination, by the union of the phlogiston of the metal with the dephlogisticated part of the common air, since after the operation the metal is deprived of its phlogiston, and the air of its dephlogisticated part?

But Mr. Cavendish objects, that no one has extracted fixed air from metals calcined in close vessels. To which Mr. K. answers, that this further proof is difficult, and no way necessary; it is difficult, because the operation can easily be performed only on small quantities; it is unnecessary, because it differs from the operation in open air only by the quantities of the materials employed, in every other respect it is exactly the same. Since Mr. Cavendish suspects the results are different, it is incumbent on him to shew that difference; but until then, according to Sir ISAAC NEWTON's second rule, *to natural effects of the same kind the same causes are to be assigned, as far as it may be done*, that is, until experience points out some other cause.

In support of the conclusion already drawn, Mr. Kirwan adduces other arguments, and closes this head with an experiment, which he thinks decisive in favour of his opinion of the composition of fixed air. If filings of zinc be digested in a caustic fixed alkali in a gentle heat, the zinc will be dissolved with effervescence, and the alkali will be rendered in a great measure mild. But if, instead of filings of zinc, flowers of zinc be used, and treated in the same manner, there will be no solution, and the alkali will remain caustic. In the first case the effervescence arises from the production of inflammable air, which phlogisticates the common air contiguous to it, and produces fixed air, which is immediately absorbed by the alkali, and renders it mild. In the second case,

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no inflammable air is produced, the common air is not phlogisticated, and, consequently, the alkali remains caustic*. This experiment also proves that metallic calces attract fixed air more strongly than alkalies attract it; for the calces of zinc are known to contain fixed air, and yet alkalies digested with them remain caustic; and this accounts for the slight turbidity of lime-water when metals are calcined over it; for as soon as the phlogiston is disengaged from the metal, and before it has absorbed the whole quantity of fire requisite to throw it into the form of inflammable air, it meets with the dephlogisticated part of the common air on the surface of the metal, and there forms fixed air, which is instantly absorbed by the calx with which it is in contact, so that it is not to be wondered that it does not unite to the lime from which it is distant.

Of the Decomposition of Nitrous Air by Mixture with Common Air.

As soon as Mr. Kirwan had heard Mr. Cavendish's paper read, he set about trying whether lime would be precipitated from lime-water during the process, which before he had taken for granted, from the repeated experiments of Dr. Priestley; and, in effect, when he made the experiment with nitrous air, prepared and confined by the water of his tub, he found that lime-water admitted to it instantly precipitated. But having received the nitrous air over lime-water, as directed by Mr. Cavendish, he did not perceive the least milkiness after admitting common air, and after twelve hours, on breathing into the water, an evident milkiness ensued. Yet he does not think the failure of this experiment at all conclusive against the production of fixed air on this occasion, because the quantity of fixed air is so small, that it may well be supposed to unite to the nitrous selenite formed in the lime-water.—It is well known that a small quantity of fixed air is capable of uniting to all neutral salts; but to try whether nitrous selenite would attract any, Mr. Kirwan made a solution of chalk in nitrous acid, which, when

saturated, weighed 381,25 grains; but, being exposed to the air for a few hours, it weighed 382,25. He afterwards took a very dilute nitrous acid, in which an acid taste was barely perceptible, and impregnated it with a very small proportion of fixed air, and then let fall a few drops of it into lime-water; not the smallest cloud was perceived, and yet, on breathing into it afterwards, it became milky in a few seconds; so that this experiment is perfectly analogous to that in which nitrous and common air were mixed.

But if nitrous and common air be mixed over dry mercury, the result is entirely adverse to the opinion of Mr. Cavendish, and favourable to Mr. Kirwan's; for in this case the common air is not at all diminished until water is admitted to it, and the mixture agitated a few minutes, and then the diminution is nearly the same as if the mixture were made over water. Thus on mixing two cubic inches of common air with one of nitrous air, they occupied the space of two inches and one-eighth, and the surface of the mercury was immediately calcined; which shews that the inch of nitrous air was decomposed, and produced nitrous acid; but the common air was undiminished; and the one eighth of an inch over and above the two inches of common air proceeded from an addition of new nitrous air, formed by the corrosion of the surface of the mercury.

Of the Diminution of Common Air by the Electric Spark.

Of all the instances of the artificial production of fixed air by the union of phlogiston with the dephlogisticated part of common air, there is none perhaps so convincing as that exhibited by taking the electric spark through common air, over a solution of litmus, or lime-water; for the common air is diminished one-fourth, the litmus reddened, and the lime-water precipitated.

Mr. Cavendish indeed attributes the redness of the litmus to fixed air; but he thinks it proceeds from a decomposition of some part of the vegetable juice, as all vegetable juices contain fixed

* See Mr. Laffone's Experiments on Zinc. Mem. Par. 1777, p. 7 & 8.

fixed air. Yet that such a decomposition does not take place, Mr. K. thinks may be inferred from the following reasons: first, if the electric spark be taken through phlogisticated or inflammable air confined by litmus, no redness is produced, the air not being in the least diminished; and, 2dly, if the litmus were decomposed, inflammable air should be produced as well as fixed air; and then there should be an addition of bulk, instead of a diminution; but what sets the origin of the fixed air from the phlogistication of the common air beyond all doubt is, that if lime-water be used instead of litmus, the diminution is the same, and the lime is precipitated. Here Mr. Ca-

vendish says, the fixed air proceeds either from *some dirt in the tube*; a supposition, which, being neither necessary nor probable, is not admissible; or else *from some combustible matter in the lime*; but lime contains no combustible matter, except perhaps phlogiston, which cannot produce fixed air but by uniting to the common air, according to Mr. K.'s supposition; but it is much more probable, that the diminution does not arise from any phlogiston in the lime, as it is exactly the same whether lime-water be used or not; and the lime does not appear to be in the least altered, and in fact contains scarce any phlogiston.

(To be continued.)

BIOGRAPHY.

THE LIFE OF DR. JOHN CAMPBELL, LL.D*.

JOHN CAMPBELL, an eminent historical, biographical, and political writer of the present century, was a native of that part of Great-Britain called Scotland, and born in the city of Edinburgh, on the 8th of March, 1707-8. His father was Robert Campbell, of Glenlyon, Esq. and captain of horse in a regiment commanded by the then Earl of Hyndford; and his mother, Elizabeth, was the daughter of ——— Smith, Esq. of Windsor, in Berkshire. Our author was their fourth son, and at the age of five years he was brought by Mrs. Campbell to Windsor, from Scotland, which country he never saw afterwards. It was at Windsor that he is supposed to have received the first principles of his education, under the direction and patronage of his uncle ——— Smith, Esq. of that place. At a proper age he was placed out as a clerk to an attorney, being intended for the law; but whether it was that his genius could not be confined to that dry study, or to whatever causes besides it might be owing, it is certain that he did not pursue the line of his original designation: neither did he engage in any other particular profession, unless that of an author should be considered in

this light. One thing we are sure of, that he did not spend his time in idleness and dissipation, but in such a close application to the acquisition of knowledge of various kinds, as soon enabled him to appear with great advantage in the literary world. What smaller pieces might be written by Mr. Campbell in the early part of his life we are not capable of ascertaining; but we know that in 1736, before he had completed his thirtieth year, he gave to the public, in two volumes folio, "The Military History of Prince Eugene and the Duke of Marlborough; comprehending the History of both those illustrious Persons to the Time of their Decease." This performance was enriched with maps, plans, and cuts by the best hands, and particularly by the ingenious Claude du Bosc. The reputation hence acquired by our author occasioned him soon after to be solicited to take a part in the "Ancient Universal History," a work of great merit as well as magnitude, though drawn up with something of that inequality which is almost unavoidable, when a number of persons are engaged in carrying on the same undertaking. This history was published at first, we believe, periodically; and five volumes of it

* By the ingenious Dr. Kippis.

it in folio were completed in 1740. The sixth volume was finished in 1742, and the seventh in 1744. A second edition of it, in octavo, began to be published in 1747, and was carried on monthly, with uncommon success, till the whole was concluded in twenty volumes. For what parts of it the republic of letters was more immediately indebted to Mr. Campbell it is not in our power to determine, excepting that he is understood to have been the writer of the *Cosmonogy*, which affords a distinguished proof of his extensive acquaintance with the systems of the ancient philosophers. Whilst our author was employed in this capital work, he found leisure to entertain the world with other productions. In 1739 he published "*The Travels and Adventures of Edward Brown, Esq.*" a book that was so well received as to call for another edition. In the same year appeared his "*Memoirs of the Bashaw Duke de Ripperda*," which were reprinted with improvements in 1740. These memoirs were followed in 1741 by the "*Concise History of Spanish America*," a second edition of which, if we recollect aright, came out in 1756. In 1742 he was the author of "*A Letter to a Friend in the Country*, on the publication of *Thurloe's State Papers*;" giving an account of their discovery, importance, and utility. The same year was distinguished by the appearance of the first and second volumes of his "*Lives of the English Admirals, and other eminent British Seamen*." The two remaining volumes were completed in 1744; and the whole not long after was translated into German. This, we believe, was the first of Mr. Campbell's works to which he prefixed his name; and, indeed, he had no reason to be ashamed of so doing, for it is a performance of great and acknowledged merit. The good reception it met with was evinced in its passing through three editions in his own life-time; and a fourth hath lately been given to the public, under the inspection of Dr. Berkenhout. When our author had finished the third edition, which is more correct and complete than the former ones, he thus

wrote to his ingenious and worthy friend, the Reverend Mr. Hall: "I am certain the *Lives of the Admirals* cost me a great deal of trouble; and I can with great veracity affirm, that they contain nothing but my real sentiments, arising from as strict an enquiry into the matters which they relate as was in my power." In 1743 he published a very curious and entertaining pamphlet, called "*Hermippus revived*;" a second edition of which, much improved and enlarged, came out in 1749, under the following title: "*Hermippus Redivivus: or, the Stage's Triumph over old Age and the Grave. Wherein a Method is laid down for prolonging the Life and Vigour of Man. Including a Commentary upon an ancient Inscription, in which this great Secret is revealed; supported by numerous Authorities. The whole interspersed with a great Variety of remarkable and well attested Relations.*" This extraordinary tract had its origin in a foreign publication; but it was wrought up to perfection by the additional ingenuity and learning of Mr. Campbell, and was founded on the following inscription, said to be preserved in Reinesius's Supplement to Gruter.

ÆSCULAPIO ET SANITATI
L. CLODIUS HERMIPPUS
QUI VIXIT ANNOS CXV. DIES V.
PUELLARUM ANHELITU,
QUOD ETIAM POST MORTEM
EJUS
NON PARUM MIRANTUR PHYSICI.
JAM POSTERI SIC VITAM DUCITE.

From the circumstance here mentioned, which is represented as having been the means of prolonging the life of Hermippus to so great an age, the author raises an hypothesis, and supports it in an admirable strain of grave irony, concerning the salutary nature of the breath of young persons, especially girls and young women. Besides this, he digresses largely concerning the hermetic philosophers, and their universal medicine; and relates a variety of stories concerning them, which are excellently calculated, not only to amuse his readers, but almost to deceive those who are not sufficiently aware of his intention, and whose judgments are not matured. The writer of this ar-

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ticle well remembers, that, having read the "*Hermippus Redivivus*" in his youth, such an impression was made by it upon his imagination, that though his understanding was not convinced, or his belief engaged, by the reasonings and facts contained in it, he seemed for two or three days to be in a kind of Fairy-land. Dr. Mackenzie, a physician at Worcester, and the author of a Treatise on Health, is said to have viewed Mr. Campbell's book in a serious light; and to have been so far influenced by it, that he went and lived some time at a female boarding-school, for the benefit of receiving the salutary effects arising from the breath of the young ladies. Mr. Thicknesse, in a late performance, hath gravely adopted the system of the "*Hermippus Redivivus*." It had been asserted that Monf. Bayle alone possessed the faculty of treating at large upon a difficult subject, without discovering to which side his own sentiments leaned, and that his acquaintance with uncommon books extended farther than that of any other man. The *Hermippus* was an essay to shew that such a mode of writing, and such a species of literature, were not confined to Monf. Bayle. This, as our author himself long afterwards informed Mr. Hall, was the true key to the book. In 1756 a translation of it into Italian was published at Leghorn; in the introductory preface to which high commendations are bestowed upon the *Hermippus Redivivus*.

The smaller pieces written by Mr. Campbell were only an occasional amusement to him, and never interrupted the course of the great works in which he was engaged. In 1744 he gave to the public, in two volumes folio, his *Voyages and Travels*, on Dr. Harris's plan, being a very distinguished improvement of that gentleman's collection, which had appeared in 1705. So well was this publication of our author received, that a new edition was soon called for, which came out in numbers, and was finished in 1749. The work contains all the circumnavigators, from the time of Columbus to Lord Anson; a complete History of the East-Indies; historical Details of the

several Attempts made for the Discovery of the North-east and North-west Passages; the Commercial History of Corea and Japan; the Russian Discoveries by Land and Sea; a distinct Account of the Spanish, Portuguese, British, French, Dutch, and Danish Settlements in America; with other Pieces not to be found in any former Collection. The whole was conducted with eminent skill and judgment, and the preface is acknowledged to be a master-piece of composition and information. The time and care employed by Mr. Campbell in this important undertaking did not prevent his engaging in another great work, with regard to which we have reason to record his learned labours with particular pleasure. The work we mean is the *Biographia Britannica*, which began to be published in weekly numbers in 1745, and the first volume of which was completed in 1746, as was the second in 1748. By one of those revolutions to which the best designs are subject, the public attention to the *Biographia* seemed to flag, when about two volumes had been printed: but this attention was soon revived by the very high encomium that was passed upon it by Mr. Gilbert West, at the close of his poem on Education; from which time the undertaking was carried on with increasing reputation and success. We need not say, that its reputation and success were greatly owing to our author. It is no disparagement to the abilities and learning of his coadjutors to assert, that his articles constitute the prime merit of the four volumes through which they extend. He was not satisfied with giving a cold narration of the personal circumstances relative to the eminent men whose lives he drew up, but was ambitious of entering into such a copious and critical discussion of their actions or writings as should render the *Biographia Britannica* a most valuable repository of historical and literary knowledge. This end he has admirably accomplished, and herein hath left an excellent example to his successors. We have formerly mentioned that he received the thanks of John, the fifth Earl of Orrery,

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"in the name of all the Boyles, for the honour he had done to them, and to his own judgment, by placing the family in such a light as to give a spirit of emulation to those who were hereafter to inherit the title." The ingenious Mr. Walpole, speaking of the Campbells, Earls of Argyle, adds, "It is totally unnecessary for me to enter into their characters, that task having been so fully performed by one who wears the honour of their name, and who, it is no compliment to say, is one of the ablest and most beautiful writers of this country." The like encomium might be extended to many other articles, several of which are so uniformly complete, and so highly finished, that it is difficult to ascertain where the preference ought to be given. Were we, however, to select any single life from the rest, we should say, that the account of Roger Bacon alone would be sufficient to procure for our author no small degree of reputation. One thing by which he is peculiarly distinguished, is the candour displayed by him with respect to those persons from whom he most differed in religious and political opinions. After he had written the lives of the Calamies, he was waited upon by the Reverend Mr. Edmund Calamy, to thank him for those articles, and especially for the justice done to his great grandfather, the first divine of that family. Mr. Calamy was even surprised to find that Mr. Campbell was a member of the church of England; and still more so, when he learned that our biographer had undertaken the articles of Mr. Baxter and Dr. Conant, on purpose to prevent their falling into hands that might not equally be disposed to pay the testimony due to their respective merits. Indeed, our author has been charged with an excess of candour in some of the accounts given in the Biographia. But if, in a few instances, there should appear to be any ground for this charge, it ought to be remembered, that his error never proceeded from any intention to flatter or deceive, but from the amiable benevolence of his heart, and from his readiness to discern, and to acknowledge the talents and the worthiness of

men who were of the most opposite principles and parties. It ought also to be remembered, that his candour was not unfrequently the result of superior knowledge; and that it led him into disquisitions which tended to throw new lights on characters and actions.

When the late Mr. Robert Dodsley formed the design of that useful book, "The Preceptor," which appeared in 1748, Mr. Campbell was one of the ingenious gentlemen applied to to assist in the undertaking; and the parts written by him were the Introduction to Chronology, and the Discourse on Trade and Commerce, both of which displayed an extensive fund of knowledge upon these subjects. In 1750 he published the first separate edition of his "Present State of Europe;" a work which had been originally begun in 1746, in the "Museum," a very valuable periodical performance, printed for Mr. Dodsley. There is no production of our author's that hath met with a better reception. It has gone through six editions, and fully hath it deserved this encouragement; for it is not easy to find a book which, in such a moderate compass, contains so much historical and political information. The perspicuity, the good sense, and the sagacity with which it is written will ever command attention and admiration, even though some of Mr. Campbell's conjectures and reasonings concerning the future views and interests of the European powers should happen to be overturned by the late surprizing revolutions in the politics of the world. In such high estimation was "The present State of Europe" held abroad, that the Count de Gisors, one of the most amiable young noblemen of his time, and only son to the Marshal Duke de Belleisle, learned English, when at Copenhagen, in order to be able to read it. The next great undertaking which called for the exertion of our author's abilities and learning, was "The Modern Universal History." This extensive work was published from time to time in detached parts, till it amounted to sixteen volumes folio; and a second edition of

it in octavo began to make its appearance in 1759. The parts of it written by Mr. Campbell were the Histories of the Portuguese, Dutch, Spanish, French, Swedish, Danish, and Ostend Settlements in the East-Indies; and the Histories of the Kingdoms of Spain, Portugal, Algarve, Navarre, and that of France, from Clovis to the year 1756. It may, without controversy, be asserted, that these parts of "The Modern Universal History" must be reckoned among some of its brightest ornaments. As our author had thus distinguished himself in the literary world, the degree of LL. D. was very properly and honourably conferred upon him, on the 18th of June, 1754, by the University of Glasgow. His last grand work was "A political Survey of Britain: being a Series of Reflections on the Situation, Lands, Inhabitants, Revenues, Colonies, and Commerce of this island. Intended to shew, that they have not as yet approached near the summit of improvement, but that it will afford employment to many generations, before they push to their utmost extent the natural advantages of Great-Britain." This work, which was published in 1774, in two volumes royal quarto, cost Dr. Campbell many years of attention, study, and labour. As it was his last, so it seems to have been his favourite production, upon which he intended to erect a durable monument of his sincere and ardent love to his country. A more truly patriotic publication never appeared in the English language. The variety of information it contains is prodigious; and there is no book that better deserves the close and constant study of the politician, the senator, the gentleman, the merchant, the manufacturer; in short, of every one who has it in any degree in his power to promote the interest and welfare of Great-Britain. An assiduous pursuit of the numerous hints and plans of improvement suggested by our worthy author would, perhaps, be the only effectual method of preserving and continuing the prosperity of this island, amidst that combination of enemies and misfortunes with which she is at present

surrounded. As the "Political Survey" is so excellent both in its design and execution, it is not surprising that Dr. Campbell should receive the highest testimonies in commendation of it, and that it should engage him in a very extensive correspondence. The correspondence occasioned by it was, indeed, so great, that, in a letter to Mr. Hall, dated July 21, 1774, he informed his friend, that it had absorbed a ream of paper; and that he was about to begin upon another ream, which would probably share the same fate.

In the account which has been given of Dr. Campbell's writings, we have mentioned some of the encomiums that have been passed upon his literary merit. Several others might be added; but we shall content ourselves with producing one or two that happen to be at hand. Dr. Smollet, when doing justice to the eminent writers who adorned the reign of King George the Second, says, "Nor let us forget the merit conspicuous in the works of Campbell, remarkable for candour, intelligence, and precision." The author of the "Account of the European Settlements in America," which common fame ascribes to a gentleman of the most distinguished abilities and character, concludes his preface with the following passage: "Having spoken perhaps a little too hardly of my materials, I must except the assistance I have had from the judicious collection called Harris's Voyages. There are not many finer pieces than the History of Brazil in that collection. The light in which the author sets the events in that history is fine and instructive; an uncommon spirit prevails through it; and his remarks are every where striking and deep. The little sketch I have given in the part of Portuguese America, if it has any merit, is entirely due to that original."—"Where I differ from him in any respect, it is with deference to the judgement of a writer, to whom this nation is much obliged, for endeavouring every where, with so much good sense and eloquence, to rouse that spirit of generous enterprise, that can alone make any nation powerful or glorious." Dr. Campbell's reputation

tion was not confined to his own country, but extended to the remotest parts of Europe. As a striking instance of this, we may mention, that in the spring of the year 1774 the Empress of Russia was pleased to honour him with the present of her picture, drawn in the robes worn in that country in the days of John Basiliowitz, Grand Duke of Muscovy, who was contemporary with Queen Elizabeth. To manifest the Doctor's sense of her Imperial Majesty's goodness, a set of the "Political Survey of Britain," bound in Morocco, highly ornamented, and accompanied with a letter descriptive of the triumphs and felicities of her reign, was forwarded to St. Peterburgh, and conveyed into the hands of that great princess, by Prince Gregorio Orloff, who had resided some months in this kingdom. The Empress's picture, since the death of our author, hath been presented by his widow to Lord Macartney.

Let us now advert a little to Dr. Campbell's personal history. On the 23d of May, 1736, he married Elizabeth, daughter of Benjamin Vobe, of Leominster, in the county of Hereford, gentleman, with which lady he lived nearly forty years in the greatest conjugal harmony and happiness. So wholly did he dedicate his time to books, that he seldom went abroad: but to relieve himself, as much as possible, from the inconveniencies incident to a sedentary life, it was his custom, when the weather would admit, to walk in his garden; or, otherwise, in some room of his house, by way of exercise. By this method, united with the strictest temperance in eating, and an equal abstemiousness in drinking, he enjoyed a good state of health, though his constitution was delicate. His domestic manner of living did not preclude him from a very extensive and honourable acquaintance. His house, especially on a Sunday evening, was the resort of the most distinguished persons of all ranks, and particularly of such as had rendered themselves eminent by their knowledge, or love of literature. He received foreigners, who were fond of learning, with an

affability and kindness which excited in them the highest respect and veneration; and his instructive and cheerful conversation made him the delight of his friends in general. On the 5th of March, 1765, Dr. Campbell was appointed his Majesty's agent for the province of Georgia, in North America, which employment he held till his decease. His last illness was a decline, the consequence of a life devoted to severe study, and which resisted every attempt for his relief that the most skilful in the medical science could devise. By this illness he was carried off, at his house in Queens-square, Ormond-street, on the 28th of December, 1775, when he had nearly completed the sixty-eighth year of his age. His end was tranquil and easy, and he preserved the full use of all his faculties to the latest moment of his life. On the 4th of January following his decease he was interred in the New Burying Ground, behind the Foundling Hospital, belonging to the parish of St. George the Martyr, where a monument, with a plain and modest inscription, hath been erected to his memory. Dr. Campbell had by his lady seven children, one of whom only survived him, Anne, who, on the 22d of August, 1763, married John Grant, Esq. of Lovat, near Inverness, in North-Britain, then captain in the fifty-eighth regiment of foot, and lately his Majesty's commissary and paymaster of the royal artillery at New-York. Mrs. Grant, who was a woman of excellent understanding and taste, which had been cultivated under her father's eye, and who was possessed of the most amiable virtues, died at New-York, on the 2d of July, 1778, in the thirty-seventh year of her age. Mr. Grant, returning some time after to England, departed this life at Kensington, in the month of November, 1780. Three children left by Mr. and Mrs. Grant are now under the care of their worthy grandmother, the Doctor's widow, and are her only remaining consolation.

Dr. Campbell's literary knowledge was by no means confined to the subjects on which he more particularly treated

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treated as an author. He was well acquainted with the mathematics, and had read much in medicine. It hath been with great reason believed, that if he had dedicated his studies to the last science, he would have made a very conspicuous figure in the physical profession. He was eminently versed in the different parts of sacred literature; and his acquaintance with the languages extended not only to the Hebrew, Greek, and Latin among the ancient, and to the French, Italian, Spanish, Portuguese, and Dutch, among the modern; but, likewise, to the oriental tongues. He was particularly fond of the Greek language. His attainment of such a variety of knowledge was exceedingly assisted by a memory surprisingly retentive, and which, indeed, astonished every person with whom he was conversant. A striking instance of this hath been given by the Honourable Mr. Daines Barrington, in his tract, entitled "The Probability of reaching the North Pole discussed*." In communicating his ideas, our author had an uncommon readiness and facility; and the style of his works, which had been formed upon the model of that of the celebrated Bishop Sprat, was perspicuous, easy, flowing, and harmonious. Should it be thought that it is sometimes rather too diffusive, it will, notwithstanding, indubitably be allowed, that it is in general very elegant and beautiful.

To all these accomplishments of the understanding Dr. Campbell joined the more important virtues of a moral and pious character. His disposition was gentle and humane, and his manners kind and obliging. He was the tenderest of husbands, a most indulgent parent, a kind master, a firm and sincere

friend. To his great Creator he paid the constant and ardent tribute of devotion, duty, and reverence; and in his correspondences he shewed that a sense of piety was always nearest his heart. "We cannot (said he, in a letter to Mr. Hall) too much insist on the necessity of religion, not only as securing our happiness hereafter, but as the only safe and certain rule of life, and ten thousand times preferable to the modern notions of philosophy and ties of honour. I may with great truth say, that the church catechism is a much better system of morals than Tully's Offices. There are many fine things in these, and in the works of Seneca; but, in my judgement, none that equal either in spirit or composition some of the collects in our liturgy." On another occasion he wrote to the same friend, that he thought there was more good sense, and far better precepts for the conduct of life, in the wisdom of Solomon, and the son of Sirach, than in all the heathen sages put together; or than could be met with in Lord Bolingbroke, Mr. Hume, or Voltaire. It was our author's custom, every day, to read one or more portions of Scripture in the original, with the antient versions and the best commentators before him; and in this way, as appears from his own occasional notes and remarks, he went through the sacred writings a number of times, with great thankfulness and advantage.

Such was Dr. Campbell as a writer and as a man. By his works he has secured not only a lasting reputation, but rendered himself highly beneficial to the public; and by his virtues he became prepared for that happy immortality which awaits all the genuine followers of goodness.

* The instance mentioned by Mr. Barrington regards the accuracy wherewith Dr. Campbell, at the distance of thirty years, remembered the facts related to him by Dr. Daillie, concerning a voyage to the North Pole, in which the navigators, among whom was Dr. Daillie himself, went so far as to the 88th degree of north latitude; and might easily have proceeded farther, had not the captain thought himself obliged, by his duty in other respects, to return.

REFLECTION.

STERNE will be immortal when Rabelais and Cervantes are forgot—They drew their characters from the
LOND. MAG. Nov. 1784.

particular genius of the times—Sterne confined himself to nature only.

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M A T H E M A T I C S.

ANSWERS TO MATHEMATICAL QUESTIONS.

64. QUESTION (I. July) answered by NUMERICUS, the proposer.

PUT s for the sum of the three numbers, p for half the product of the two least, and v for one of them: then will $\frac{2p}{v}$ express the other, and $s - \frac{2p}{v} - v$ the greatest; consequently, $\frac{4p^2}{v^2} + v^2 = s^2 - \frac{4sp}{v} - 2sv + \frac{4p^2}{v^2} + 4p + v^2$, by the question, or $s^2 - \frac{4sp}{v} - sv + 4p = 0$; and therefore $v = \frac{\frac{1}{2}s^2 + 2p}{2s} \pm \frac{\sqrt{\frac{1}{4}s^4 - 6s^2p + 4p^2}}{2s}$.

Now, as v is to be rational, $\frac{1}{4}s^4 - 6s^2p + 4p^2$ must be so, which cannot happen unless some certain multiple of the first term (to be determined hereafter) be a square number; and this will evidently always happen when s is a square number. But s must also be a cube number by the question: let us therefore assume $s = 1$, which is both a square and a cube number, and then $4p^2 - 6p + \frac{1}{4}$ must be a square number; and, consequently, $16p^2 - 24p + 1$ must also be a square number, which is evidently impossible; because when s is $= 1$, p will be less than unity, and, consequently, $16p^2 - 24p + 1$, negative. Assume, therefore, $s = 64$, the next number to unity, which is both a square and a cube; then will $\frac{1}{4}s^4 - 6s^2p + 4p^2$ be equal to $4p^2 - 24576p + 4194304$, and which must, therefore, be a square number: consequently, $p^2 - 6144p + 1048576$ must be a square number. But, by the question, $p + s$, or $p + 64$, must be a square number; therefore, $16384 \times p + 64 = 16384p + 1048576$ will be a square number; and the last term in each of these squares is a multiple of s and a square, the side of which is 1024, of which root the co-efficient of p in each square is a multiple, their sum or difference will, therefore, be a multiple of 1024: taking, therefore, the difference of those squares we have $p^2 - 22528p$, which is known to be equal to the product of the sum and difference of the roots of the two squares. We have, therefore, to find two numbers, which, when multiplied together, may make $p^2 - 22528p$, and have their half sum and half difference composed of the sum and difference of some multiple of p , and 1024, the root of the last term of each of the two above-mentioned squares; and which, as 22528 is a multiple of 1024, is readily done, and found to be $11p$, and $\frac{1}{11}p - 2048$. The

half sum of these is $\frac{61}{11}p - 1024$, and their half difference $\frac{60}{11}p + 1024$. Now, as p , when $s = 64$, cannot exceed 220, it is manifest that $p^2 - 6144p + 1048576$ is less than $16384p + 1048576$: and, moreover, $\frac{p}{11} - 2048$ being a negative quantity,

$\frac{60}{11}p + 1024$, the half difference, must be greater than $\frac{61}{11}p - 1024$, the half sum, and consequently is the root of the latter of these squares: we have, therefore, $\left(\frac{60}{11}p + 1024\right)^2 = \frac{3600}{121}p^2 + \frac{122880}{11}p + 1048576 = 16384p + 1048576$, or $\frac{3600}{121}p + \frac{122880}{11} = 16384$, or $3600p + 1351680 = 1982464$, and $p = 175 \frac{49}{225}$. Conse-

quently, $v = 19 \frac{5}{9}$, or $17 \frac{23}{25}$, the two least numbers: consequently, the greatest will be $26 \frac{118}{225}$.

65. QUESTION

65. QUESTION (II. July) not answered.

66. QUESTION (III. July) answered by Mr. THOMAS MOSS, the proposer.

Draw the lines BE, CR, BG, *be*, and *cr*, and also the tangents DG and *dg*, cutting the peripheries of the circles in K and *k*.

Then, because $\angle DE$ (or $\angle DS + \angle SE$) is $= \angle DS + \angle SF$, it is manifest that $\angle DE - \angle DS$ is $= \angle SF = \angle DF$;

and, by the very same method of reasoning, it is evident that $\angle de - \angle ds$ is $= \angle df$, and therefore (by *Euc.* 36. 3) we have $\angle DE - \angle DS$ ($\angle DF$) \times $DS = DG^2$ (DGB being a right angle, or DG a tangent to the circle SGF): and, for the very same reason, we also have

$\angle de - \angle ds$ ($\angle df$) \times $ds = dg^2$; but, since (by *hypotheses*) DG is $= dg$, and $DS = ds$, it is therefore evident that $DE = de$, and consequently $SE (= DE - DS = de - ds) = se$, or $SF (= 2SE = 2se) = sf$. Moreover (by *sim. triangles and hyp.*) we shall have

$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} DB : DC :: DE : DR \\ DB : DC (:: db : dc) :: de : dr \end{array} \right\}$; whence (by *eq.*) it is manifest that DR is $= dr$, and consequently $RS (= DS - DR = ds - dr) = rs$, and $RF (= RS + SF = rs + sf) = rf$. Q. E. D.

COROLLARY.

If CK , ck , and bg be drawn, it will then evidently appear (by *sim. triangles*, &c. since DG is $= dg$ by *hyp.*) that DK is $= dk$.

This question was also answered by Mr. George Sanderfon.

NEW QUESTIONS.

77. QUESTION I. by MATHEMATICUS, of Greenwich.*


Let there be two parallel lines, AB , CD , and suppose a spectator to be without them both at O , in the perpendicular AC produced; the height of whose eye is six feet, and AO twenty feet: then, by the principles of perspective, these parallel lines will appear to him to diverge, or widen, to a certain distance from AC , and afterwards to converge, or approach to each other. It is required to determine how far they are to be set apart, so that the distance from AC , at which the greatest apparent interval is seen, may be fifty feet.

78. QUESTION II. by ASTRONOMICUS.

It is required to determine whether the moon's horizontal diameter, or her diameter increased, on account of her altitude, ought to be used in constructing solar eclipses according to Flamsted's method.

79. QUESTION III. *by Mr. J. WALSON.*

In a right-angled triangle let there be given the sum of the hypotenuse, one leg, and the adjacent segment of the hypotenuse, made by a perpendicular, let fall from the right angle; also the sum of the rectangles under the same side and the hypotenuse, that side, and the adjacent segment, and the square of that side, to construct the triangle.

 The answers to these questions may be directed (post-paid) to Mr. Baldwin, in Paternoster-row, London.

THE MISCELLANY.
FOR THE LONDON MAGAZINE.
STORY OF THE COUNTESS OF CHATEAU BRIAND.

(Concluded from p. 287.)

HAD the count retained any place in her affections, these arguments might have had some weight; but her dislike of him was so deeply rooted, that they were totally ineffectual.

Among the acquaintances she had formed since her arrival at Paris was a young widow in the bloom of life and beauty, like herself, and who had also experienced the miseries of being married to a jealous and ill-tempered husband. The similitude of their destinies had produced a reciprocal sympathy between them, which had speedily ripened into great friendship and confidence.

To this lady she unboomed herself without reserve on the difficulty of her situation. But far different was the advice of this last from that which had been given her by the former.

This young widow was near of an age with the countess; but having, since the demise of her husband, which had happened about two years before this period, lived at large, and enjoyed unconfined liberty, she was much more experimentally conversant with the world.

She advised the countess never to admit the idea of returning to her husband, with whom she could hope for nothing but imprisonment, and a renewal of all the horrors she had suffered, together with an infallible addition of still more, to revenge himself for the disquietude and vexation he had undergone from the journey she had taken to Paris, and her appear-

ance at court without his previous knowledge and consent.

As to the royal predilection, which was represented to her in such alarming colours, she sincerely congratulated her upon so auspicious an event, which, whether of long or of short duration, a woman of sense and spirit would always be able to convert to her advantage. It was a post at which numbers of females of high rank aspired in private with much fervour, whatever repugnance they might affect in public: were she fond of her husband, or had any reason for being attached to him, she would be the last woman to hold such a discourse; but as their characters were wholly incompatible, it were folly to seek for happiness where it could not possibly be found.

She added, that she had herself been lately solicited upon honourable terms by some men of very high distinction; but that the dread of making an unfortunate choice had kept her from listening to their addresses; that apprehensions of this kind would, she believed, long, if not ever, operate against a matrimonial connection, upon the indissolubleness of which she could not look without fear and trembling.

Her council was, therefore, to bid an everlasting adieu to all notions of reunion with the count, and to exert all her powers in order to captivate the heart of her royal lover, from whose well-known generosity and nobleness of mind she had every thing to expect.

Such a prince was not to be con-
founded

founded with others in the same station: exclusive of his rank and power, he had an innate dignity of disposition, which rendered him amiable for his own sake; she frankly acknowledged, that were he to offer himself as a lover, she would accept of him with open arms; but that not being the case, she exhorted her, as a sincere well-wisher, to act as she would do herself, were it in her option, and not to suffer herself to be deterred from a connection with that monarch, by the interested or groundless representations of false friends, or weak-minded people.

Whether this young widow spoke her genuine sentiments, or was secretly deputed to use these arguments, certain it is they made an impression upon the countess: she threw off the timidity which had hitherto accompanied her, and assumed that air of freedom and gaiety which characterised the court of her lover.

In the mean time his passion for her daily gained ground. She was unquestionably one of the most charming women of that age: her person was enchanting, her humour affable and obliging; she was sensible and sprightly, and her manners were soft and engaging: all these were invincible attractions to a prince in the flower of his age, and of a most amorous constitution.

But, independent of the propensity common to all men to admire handsome women, Francis had a delicacy far above the usual level: beauty alone was not sufficient to subdue him; he looked for something beyond what met his eye; where internal merit was wanting, internal charms lost their effect; his admiration was that of a man of genius and discernment, and he was never known to bestow his attachment upon a mere outside.

The countess was precisely such an object as his wishes coveted: the more he saw her, the more cause he found to be enamoured; her native modesty gave unaffected lustre to the liveliness which she gradually acquired by her transplantation into the gayer scenes of life: he attentively observed her conduct in a situation so new to her

perceptions and feelings, and constantly discovered in every part of her behaviour a cautiousness and discretion, that convinced him she was a woman of exquisite sensibility and refinement, as well as of the most lovely frame.

He now determined to make her the object of his particular assiduities. He laid himself out to obtain her good graces with all that polite earnestness which is so pleasing to the sex, as it convinces them that they are no less respected than beloved.

Far from presuming on the exaltedness of his station, he behaved with as much courtesy and gentleness as if he had been a private individual, suing with many others for the happiness of her smiles and favour.

Such a lover as this was not formed for a repulse; he soon perceived what he ardently desired, that her partiality for him was equal to his predilection for her, and that he should enjoy what he was wont to stile the greatest of all mortal felicities, the pleasure of being loved for his own sake.

It was not, however, till after some time that she yielded to his courtship. The merit of her concession was enhanced by the unfeigned difficulty with which she prevailed upon herself to make it. Her struggles with the strictness and regularity of her former life were accompanied with a gracefulness that shewed they were void of all affectation.

Francis was now in possession of the jewel he had so long and so diligently sought. He expressed a satisfaction in having acquired it that did the highest honour to his taste: not only the monarch, but his whole court, were of opinion that he could not have chosen a more amiable partner of his softer moments.

She became in a short time the absolute mistress of his heart, not so much by exercising those blandishments with which nature has so powerfully adorned the sex, as by displaying a dignity of sentiments, and a propriety of behaviour, that captivated her royal lover's mind, and excited his esteem no less than the others invited his attachment.

What

What equally delighted Francis, and conciliated all his court, were the gentleness of her deportment, and the moderation she displayed in her conduct: people of all degrees met with the kindest treatment from her, and she behaved so courteously upon all occasions, that it was evident she was solicitous in the highest degree to give no causes of offence.

This meekness and condescension were the more laudable, as the King grew continually more fervent in his affection, and testified such a consideration for her, that it was plain she had only to ask to be gratified.

But she made no improper use of her credit; her family was already so respectable, that it could disgrace no honours that might be conferred upon it. She had three brothers, as brave men as any in France. The King promoted them to high commands, in which they greatly signalized their valour and capacity.

In the mean time, the count, her husband, was not absent from her remembrance. Notwithstanding his ill usage of her, she thought it incumbent upon her, to soften as much as lay in her power the mortification of having slighted him for another. As she possessed an absolute power over the King, she prevailed upon him to make the most advantageous offers to the count, by way of atonement: the highest posts in the realm were laid before him; but he rejected them with scorn, and forbade any mention of the countess in his presence.

He lived at a time when a sense of honour was supremely prevalent over all other considerations. Though proud and aspiring, he was not of a temper to sacrifice his character to any views of ambition: "The higher the King means to raise me (said he) the more notorious will be my degradation, were I to accept of his offers."

So resolute a refusal highly chagrined the countess. She had written him a supplicatory letter, entreating him to reflect like a man of sense on the impropriety of the connection that had once subsisted between them, so much to the uneasiness and the unhap-

piness, of both; that a separation, therefore, was what each party ought reasonably to desire; that a reconciliation being now impracticable, it were the wisest thing they could do to forget each other; that nevertheless it was her earnest wish to contribute to his welfare to her very utmost; conformably to this intent, she had induced the King to shew the value and respect he entertained for him, by conferring upon him the most honourable and most important employments in the realm.

But the resentment of the count was proof against this and all the subsequent solicitations that came from her: they were frequent and pressing; the countess, who was a woman of equal understanding and feeling, laboured with all her might to convince him that what had happened was best for both: but her endeavours were lost upon a man, who, though he acknowledged his love was extinguished, yet as violently asserted that his resentment would always subsist.

In the mean time the affection of Francis continued with unabated warmth; she was the principal object of his cares and pleasures, and the sum of his happiness was centered in her.

Such was the situation of the countess, when Francis left her, to put himself at the head of his army in Italy. No expedition ever proved more unfortunate; he was defeated, wounded, and taken prisoner at the battle of Pavia, and carried to Spain, where he was kept in close confinement by his rival and bitter enemy, the Emperor Charles the Fifth.

The news of this misfortune was near proving fatal to the countess. Her attachment to Francis rendered her inconsolable, and she gave herself up to grief and lamentation.

But what made her condition truly deplorable, was the power that was now devolved into the hands of some persons who envied her ascendancy over the mind of Francis, and resolved to avail themselves of this opportunity of wreaking their revenge, on account of some disappointments their ambition had met with from her superior credit.

Among

Among these was the Duchess of Angouleme, mother of Francis, an ambitious and haughty woman, who had long borne with secret indignation the influence of the countess, and had strove by indirect means to lessen it.

This unhappy lady was entirely abandoned through fear of the duchess, now become regent of the kingdom in the King's absence and imprisonment. Seeing herself exposed to her insults and ill-treatment, without any prospect of protection, she withdrew from the public world, and retired to a country mansion, in order to consider at leisure what measures were most advisable to adopt.

But so distressful was her situation, that no one dared to express any commiseration for it, or seem inclinable to administer any assistance to her.

In this doleful state she was visited by a religious old lady, who had often, during her prosperity, waited upon her with warm exhortations to forsake the court, and retire to penance and solitude.

This good old lady renewed her solicitations with much earnestness, and prevailed upon her to shut herself up in a nunnery, with an intent to remain there for life: but an alarming decline of her health, together with the exhortations of those who presided there, soon altered her determination. The abbess was a well-meaning woman, ignorant of the world and of human nature; the confessor of the convent was a rigid moralist, unacquainted with mankind, and wholly taken up with exercises of devotion. In a fit of illness which seized the unhappy countess, they assailed her weakened faculties with such terrifying descriptions of the enormity of the sin she had committed, in forsaking her husband, that as soon as she was sufficiently recovered, she resolved to go and throw herself at his feet, and crave his forgiveness.

Some friends, who had more experience and discretion, endeavoured to dissuade her from trusting herself into the hands of an enraged man, who had often vowed the severest vengeance against her, and who was known to be

of a violent and vindictive disposition; but the resolution she had taken was too firmly fixed to be shaken by all the arguments that could be used: life, she said, was become a burthen, of which she cared not how soon she was ridden; if her husband did not think her fit to live, she was willing to die.

In these penitential sentiments she set out for the seat of her husband, careless of the consequences of so hazardous a step.

He received her with a sternness and silence that foreboded no happy issue to her undertaking. She was conducted to a remote part of his mansion, and lodged in a dark room, of which the hangings and all the furniture were black.

In this gloomy retirement she was waited upon by persons who had orders to hold no conversation with her. She was supplied with books that treated of death and a future state, and bid to read them with particular attention, and prepare herself for another world.

She was kept in the dreadful expectation in what manner all this would end during the space of six months. At the expiration of that time, the count came one evening, and informed her that on the following day she was to die. Next morning accordingly he entered the room, accompanied by eight men with masks on, and two of whom were surgeons: they seized the unfortunate lady, tied her to the bed, opened the veins of her arms and legs, and left her in that condition to expire.

Such was the revenge of this inhuman wretch upon a lovely woman, whom his cruel treatment alone compelled to hate and forsake him, and who nevertheless, touched with repentance, had committed herself to his mercy.

It is not meant that he should have received her again to his arms; but that indifference and neglect would have been a sufficient punishment to a woman of her character, and would have afforded ample satisfaction to his resentment.

This horrid murder did not long remain

remain concealed. The perpetrator was obliged to fly his country, and live many years in exile, in order to avoid the wrath of his wife's lover, from whom he had no mercy to expect. Francis, on hearing of the tragical end of his beloved countess, vowed the most signal vengeance on the guilty,

and dispatched instantly some resolute men to carry it into immediate execution wherever they could find them: but they were too well concealed; researches were vain, and he had not the pleasure of making this just sacrifice to her memory.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE LONDON MAGAZINE.
ON THE RISE OF THE ARTS.

S I R,

IT has long been a favourite opinion amongst the learned, both ancient and modern, that the Egyptians were acquainted with the arts and sciences, when all the other people were in a state of ignorance. We are told they discovered geometry in making the divisions of land, after the annual overflowing of the Nile; that the clearness of their atmosphere enabled them to make astronomical observations sooner than other people; and that the fertility of their country gave rise to trade, by enabling them to supply all their neighbours with corn, and other necessaries of life. These arguments are, however, more specious than true, for, if we owe the discovery of geometry to the overflowing of the Nile, of astronomy to the clearness of the atmosphere, and of trade to the fertility of the soil, in that part of Hindostan which is within the tropic there are still larger rivers, which overflow annually, a clearer sky, and a more fertile soil. The Nile only once a-year affords a supply of water to the countries on its banks, and the small quantity of rain that falls there at other times does not furnish moisture enough to keep up the smallest degree of vegetation. Whereas the rivers in Hindostan, particularly those on the coast of Choromandel, are regularly filled with water twice a-year, first from the rains which fall in June, July, and August, in the Balagat mountains, where the sources of those rivers lie; and afterwards from the N. E. monsoon or rainy season, which continues on the Choromandel coast during the months of October, November, and

December. With respect to the goodness of the climate, or the clearness of the atmosphere for the purpose of astronomy, there can be no comparison between Egypt and Hindostan; for at night during the greater part of the year in Hindostan there is scarcely a cloud to be seen in the sky, and the air, especially in the southern countries, is never disagreeably cold, so that an astronomer would have every opportunity and inducement to pursue his studies in the open air, whereas in Egypt the sky is often cloudy, and the air so cold, as to make it unpleasant to be out of doors after sun-set.

The Indians had also very evidently the advantage of the Egyptians with respect to clothing, which is one of the necessaries, or at least one of the comforts, of life; for if we suppose men first clothed themselves in the skins of animals, India abounds in vast forests, and extensive fertile plains, where animals of all kind, both savage and tame, must have bred infinitely faster than in the barren deserts of upper Egypt; but in a hot country the natives would naturally prefer garments made of woven cotton. Now, the cotton shrub is very rare in Egypt, even at this time, and it is well known to have grown in India, and to have been fabricated into cloth, ever since we have had any acquaintance with that country. From these premises, therefore, it is natural to suppose that the Indians in the early ages were much more likely to supply the Egyptians with the necessaries and comforts of life, than to be supplied by them; that the Indians would at least have as much occasion

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occasion for geometry as the Egyptians; and that they had at least equal, if not greater, advantages for pursuing the study of astronomy. Thus far, however, all is but conjecture, for we have no tradition or history of those times, when either the Egyptians or the Indians were in an uncivilized state; but if we pursue the subject, we shall find very evident proofs, that when an intercourse did take place between them, that the Egyptians received from Hindostan all those articles of luxury which the Greeks and Romans purchased again from them. It would be both tedious and unnecessary to enumerate all these; I shall, therefore, content myself with particularising silk, spices, pearls, diamonds, and other precious stones.

It was formerly supposed that most of these articles came from Arabia Felix, but this error has long since been exploded. It is now well known they were none of them the produce of Arabia, but were brought thither by vessels from India, and from thence were carried up the Red Sea, with other productions of that country.

It may perhaps be objected, that the Egyptians and the Arabians are generally supposed to have known the art of navigation before the Indians, and of course, that although India may produce spices, &c. the Egyptians and Arabians went thither to fetch them. History being entirely silent on this subject, we can only endeavour to ascertain this matter, by stating the arguments on both sides the question.

In all probability, before any intercourse subsisted between the Indians and Egyptians, both people knew how to construct small boats, or rather rafts, for crossing deep rivers, and even for transporting themselves by water from one place to another in the same country; but, at the same time, it must be allowed, that the Indians had much better materials for building both small and large boats than either the Egyptians, or even the Arabians; and the boats of the present day plainly shew in what manner the Indians made use of these materials. The planks are made of a light, buoyant, pliant wood,

sewed together with coir, or the rind of the cocoa nut, made into a kind of small cord; all the larger ropes are made of the same materials, and even the oars themselves are formed of one straight pole, with a piece of flat board tied upon it with a coir string to form the blade of the oar. The present large country boats of forty and fifty tons, especially those belonging to the Lacadivi and Maldivi islands, are still built in the same manner, with no other difference than being on a larger scale: with these in a fair season they make voyages many degrees out of sight of land, yet nothing of the kind, not even the first essays of the art, could have been more rude than these now are. It is highly probable, therefore, that as soon as they knew the latitude of the straits of Babelmandel, and were furnished with instruments for making observations, they ventured to pass over from the Malabar coast to that of Arabia.

I may perhaps be asked when and how it was they became acquainted with the latitude of these straits; that is a difficulty I believe no person can solve, any more than myself, but it is possible that there was once a chain of islands nearly in sight of each other, from the Malabar coast to that of Arabia, most of which may have been swallowed up in some great convulsion of nature, so as to leave no remains, excepting the island of Socotra and those of Lacadivi and Maldivi: but even supposing no such islands to have existed, still surely, as the Indians had good materials for building vessels, and a sea to sail upon that is governed by regular currents and periodical winds, neither of which the Egyptians had, we may rather suppose that the produce of Hindostan was carried to Egypt by the Indians, than that it was fetched away from thence by the Egyptians.

If the Indians required nothing from the Egyptians either of the necessities or comforts of life; if the Egyptians got spices and other articles of luxury from India; and if the natives of India were first acquainted with the science of astronomy and the arts of navigation, all of which I think are pro-

bable, it is but reasonable to suppose that the arts and sciences were first known in India, and from thence were brought up the Red Sea to Egypt.

I am well aware, that the advocates for Egypt will call upon me to produce any remains of antiquity in India so ancient as the Pyramids. To these gentlemen I shall oppose one impossibility to another, by asking them to trace back the building of Gour, which seven hundred and thirty years before Christ was the capital of Bengal, or of the better known Palibothra of the ancients, which was the capital of India long before Alexander's time. As a further proof that the natives of Hindostan were in an advanced state of civilization near two thousand years ago, I shall also beg leave to observe, that a plate of copper was lately dug up at Mongheer, engraved with Shanfcrit characters, which contains a conveyance or grant of land from Bickeram Geet, Raja of Bengal, to one of his subjects, and dated near one hundred years before the Christian era. To enter into a long detail of reasoning upon this plate cannot be necessary; I am persuaded, Sir, you will in an instant conceive how long the arts and sciences must have been known in Hindostan, before these regular divisions of land took place, and the grants of them were engraved on copper in such characters as would not disgrace our most skilful artists even at this time.

The ingenious Mr. Halhed, in the preface of his Bengal Grammar, informs us, that the Raja of Kishnagur, who, he says, is by far the most learned and able antiquary that Bengal has produced within this century, positively affirms that he has in his own possession Shanfcrit books, which give an account of a communication formerly subsisting between India and Egypt, wherein the Egyptians are constantly described as disciples, and not as instructors, of the Indians; and as seeking that liberal education, and those sciences, in Hindostan, which none of their own counrrymen had sufficient knowledge to impart. This evidence of the learned Raja has great weight with me, especially as there are

books now extant in Bengal, written in the Shanfcrit language, which are copies of others, said by the Bramins to be dated more than two thousand two hundred years before the Christian era. This fact admitted, and I firmly believe it very possible to be proved, the Egyptians must appear a modern people in comparison with the natives of Hindostan; for when the former were advanced no farther in literature than the constructing of hieroglyphics, the latter were masters of books written in a language which had then attained a great degree of perfection.

But this is not all that may be urged in favour of the claims of the Indians; some further proofs will appear, upon examining the general state of commerce at that time all over the globe. In Europe it was very trifling, and only a corner of Africa was ever known, consequently, whatever commerce then existed must have come from Asia. About this time there was a chain, or if I may be allowed the expression, a street of magnificent cities from Coptos to Alexandria, which continued in a flourishing state, notwithstanding the Egyptian empire frequently changed its sovereign. Nor, from any information I am master of, can I find those cities began to decline until the followers of Mahomed transferred the India trade from Upper Egypt to the opposite coast of the Red Sea; then, and not before, Upper Egypt became what it still continues to be, an uninhabited desert. If these facts be true, and I believe they will not be disputed, we may reasonably infer from them, not only that these cities of Upper Egypt existed by the support they derived from that trade, but also that they owed their original existence to it. Nor is it Egypt only that has experienced these effects of the India trade; whatever nation has possessed the largest share of it has invariably for the time enjoyed also the largest portion of wealth and power, and when deprived of it, sunk again almost into their original obscurity.

When the folly of the crusades was over, and the remembrance of the injuries sustained on both sides in some measure

measure mutually forgotten; the Mahomedans, intent only on conquest and spreading the doctrines of their prophet, allowed the Christians to carry on the trade between Europe and the Levant, which consisted principally in transporting the India goods from the ports of Syria, Palestine, and Egypt, to those of Italy. It is well known that the Venetians for a long time engrossed the greater part of this trade, and whilst they enjoyed it were the richest and most powerful people in Europe; we may also trace it from Venice to the Hans towns by the cities to which it gave rise in Germany. But at length the Portuguese discovered the passage round the Cape of Good Hope, which carried a part of the India trade into another channel; immediately Venice declined, and Portugal became one of the greatest nations in Europe. They, however, enjoyed their superiority but a short time, for the enterprising and industrious natives of Holland found their way round the Cape of Good Hope, and very soon established themselves in India on the ruin of the Portuguese. Whilst the riches of India flowed into Holland, the Dutch disputed the empire of the seas with the united fleets of England and France. At last we obtained a larger portion of this trade than ever was enjoyed by any nation whatever, excepting the Egyptians, and every person knows at that period

Great-Britain gave law to all Europe. Nor does it require the gift of prophecy to be able to foretell, that, deprived of this source of wealth, we shall sink almost as low in the political scale of Europe as either Holland, Portugal, Venice, or even Egypt itself.

If all the European countries I have mentioned derived the major part of their wealth and power from the India trade, and declined again when they were deprived of it, we may naturally suppose that similar causes have produced similar effects in Egypt, and consequently that Hindostan was the original source or fountain head of the arts, the sciences, and commerce, and from whence they have since been diffused over the rest of the globe.

Although rather foreign to the subject of this letter, I cannot help remarking, that there seems something more than common chance in this regular progress of the arts and sciences from East to West; supposing them to have come originally from India, they next went to Egypt, from thence to Greece, and so on to Italy, Germany, France, Spain, and Portugal: from the west part of Europe they also passed over to America, where probably they will still continue to pursue the same course, until they have finished their circuit round the globe, by opening a communication between the west coasts of America and the east coasts of Asia.

C.

NATIONAL TRAITS. BY THE LATE JEAN JACQUES ROUSSEAU.

A F R A G M E N T.

TO learn the characters of people inhabiting different countries, it is not necessary to read the crudities of the speculative, any more than to swallow the fictions of the credulous. Ignorance and presumption fabricate monsters. We must see men act, and hear them converse, and have some degree of intercourse or connection with them, before we can form any judgment of their modes of thinking or principles of action.

In America we shall find treachery a profession. The tyranny of England

has involved all its appendages in the same black imputation. But here only are the sublime purities of the Gospel interwoven with a system of perfidy equally disgraceful to the reason of man, and shocking to his heart.

My opinion of the English is founded in experience, and they never will give me an opportunity of thinking myself mistaken, by forgiving me for speaking the truth. Voltaire calls them philosophers. So it is said he once thought Frederic of Berlin. But his character is as sublime as his poetry. With him

Lyttleton was a genius, and Hume a scribbler. Rabelais thought the island swarmed with brutes. In my opinion, it is not a den of lions, but a nest of harpies, hornets, and monsters.

The Dutch are men of the world. It is their object, and there is nothing they will not risque in its acquisition. Their virtues and vices are those of industry and avarice. Like the Americans, slow, their motion is hardly perceptible, but their success infallible. And they literally verify the common proverb, that the snail is often as soon at his journey's end as the steed. Their history, more than that of any other people whatever, illustrates the triumphs of patience.

The Germans have nothing fine in the texture either of body or mind. This makes them seem ungrateful, but they are without malignity. They make tolerable soldiers, good farmers, but better manufacturers. Theirs is the invention of clocks, printing, and the compass. They restored music, and found out various musical instruments. To them we are obliged for chariots, laying of colours with oil, working of pictures in glass, making worsted, staves, tapestry, and many other species of manufactory and mechanism.

They gave birth to political liberty, and yet they are subject to the sarcasm of suffering themselves to be insulted and plundered by multitudes of petty tyrants, who would be suddenly extirpated by every other people in the world. This, however, does not prove their humanity, but their want of spirit.

The Spaniards borrow from the Jews superstition, from the Saracens melancholy, and from the Goths candour, love of liberty, taciturnity, and pride.

The French are a society of mimics, but nature is their model, and to such a pitch of excellence have they carried the mimical science, that when they would pass fictions for realities, the copy is not inferior to the original.

The Italians have nearly the same effect on my mind that an emetic has on my stomach, and it is hard to say whether their effeminacy be more contemptible, or their flagitious luxury more shocking.

While the Spaniards, though fools, are said to seem wise, and the French, though wise, to seem fools, the Portuguese appear at least as foolish as they are. Nature has made the wretches so stupid, that they have not ingenuity enough to conceal it.

FOR THE LONDON MAGAZINE. A TOUR TO KILLARNEY, 1777.

ON September 9th we left Limerick pretty early in the morning, and passed through a finely improved country to Adare, a little village pleasantly situated, and embellished with the ruins of several churches and convents almost covered with ivy. We next passed through the small town of Rathkeal, remarkable only for a large race-ground near it. Newcastle, twelve miles from hence, is a very handsome town, with a new church, and several pretty buildings: this is part of the estate of Lord Courtenay, and here one — Lock, Esq. brother-in-law and agent to Lord Courtenay, resides: he seems to be a gentleman of great taste, and has planted the Lombardian poplars in great numbers, both in a large and well improved

garden and some adjacent inclosures.

We left this town about four that evening, passed over a very poor barren country, entered the county of Kerry by a bridge of twenty-two arches, and arrived that night at Castle island. This place wears more the appearance of former than present grandeur; the accommodation we met with rather worse than tolerable, or at least it seemed so after Newcastle. Next morning we reached Killarney about twelve, and being informed that the hounds were then in pursuit of a stag near the lake, we hastened to see it, but, to our great disappointment, when we arrived at the lower lake, it was just over, which disagreeable piece of information we received.

received from the report of a gun, fired as a signal of the hunt being ended. Having procured a suitable boat, we left a place called Ross castle, about two o'clock, and thence proceeded to view the lower lake—we rowed about four miles along shore on the opposite side of the lake, which is in some places three, and others four miles across. The mountains on this side are very high, and mostly covered with great variety of trees, as oak, beech, and mountain ash, mostly beautifully blended with holly, yew, and arbutus. After viewing a large cascade called Tornish, we proceeded to Innisfall, an island, where we landed. This island is a mile in circumference, and has on it the remains of an old abbey, now converted into a house of entertainment, where visitors frequently dine. The island is covered with arbutus, ash, holly, and ivy trees, among which we saw a French holly nine feet in circumference, and without any prickles on the leaves. Near this is a large rock called O'Donaghoe's prison, on which we were informed he frequently left his prisoners of war to starve, unless they saved themselves by the dangerous alternative of swimming on shore. There are thirty other islands in this lake, mostly remarkable for a great quantity of arbutus trees; we landed on but few of them, and returned that evening to Killarney. At a place called Ross Mines we saw several pits where copper ore was sometime since dug, but discontinued, as we were informed, for want of fuel.

September 10th, we rose early, and having procured from Lord Kenmare's agent a six-oar barge and an experienced coxswain, we left Ross Castle (where two companies of foot are quartered) about seven, and proceeded to view the upper lake, keeping pretty close to the shore under the great mountain of Glenna: at a place called Glenna Bay we went on shore, cut our names on a large birch tree, fired two guns, and sounded the French horn. The echo from the guns was first heard on the adjacent mountains, and twice after on others at a considerable distance, and rattling among the hills resembled the loudest

and most awful thunder. The music was delightfully harmonious, its reverberating round the mountains, and then gradually dying away exceeds description. We next passed Sullivan's Basin, and about nine o'clock landed at Ware bridge, where we kindled a fire, and breakfasted; we staid here about an hour, and proceeded through a narrow part of the lake to the Eagle's Nest (a very high rock on our right hand) which we were told was 2000 feet above the water. We landed the man with the horn on the right side of the lake, and went ashore ourselves some distance higher on the left hand, quite out of both sight and hearing of the horn. The music exceeded what we had before heard under Glenna, both for harmony and length of sound, as did also the cannon, for the loud and repeated reverberations: in short they both exceeded what the most fertile imagination could paint, or the most descriptive language express. At the left we passed the rocks called the Man of War, and Knight of Kerry, and Fishers to the right. At eleven entered the upper lake by a narrow passage called Coleman's Eye: we had a fine double echo here, fired one gun, and soon after came opposite to the Purple Mountain, so named from its appearing of that colour. Here the echo exceeded all we had heard before, reverberating three several times round the adjacent mountains. We fired four times, and proceeded to M'Carthy's Island, in the middle of the lake, where we had also a fine, though very distant echo: we next went round Ronayne's island, which terminates the upper lake, and then prepared to return, having been greatly entertained in our passage thither (besides what is before mentioned) with the sight of nature in her rudest dress, when we viewed the tops of the rugged mountains, and in her most pleasing negligence, when we beheld the islands and half way up, the mountains covered with a great variety of trees, shrubs, &c. among which the arbutus was very numerous. The upper lake is about seven miles long, and discharges itself into the lower lake, and that into the sea (about twenty miles distant)

distant) by a small river called the Lane. On our return we landed at the Eagle Island, and went to visit the eagle's nest, but without seeing any of these birds: we next landed on the Oak Island, where nine oak trees grow out of one root; rowed hence, and came a second time to the Eagle's Nest, and were entertained by the boatmen performing the Irish funeral cry, which was first echoed from the cliff over us, then from the adjacent mountains, seeming a great distance from us: about one o'clock we landed at Dirisk Island, walked round it, and after taking boat again passed through Bricken Bridge, lately built by E. Herbert, Esq. consisting of one grand arch in the Gothic style. Here we fired one cannon, which produced a very fine distant echo; and proceeding farther, we dined on the lake, at three o'clock, near the Horse, a large rock so termed from having the appearance of that animal drinking, when viewed at a distance. After dinner we landed at the justly celebrated Mucrus gardens, the seat of Edward Herbert, Esq. The first place we viewed here was the mansion house, which is large and elegant: we next proceeded to the gardens, which our guide assured us contained 48 acres, divided into flower, kitchen, and shrubbery, one part of which is covered with a thick brush, and affords shelter for hares, rabbits, foxes, martins, and badgers; the first thing that attracted our notice were hops and vines growing spontaneously together, and several large plum trees growing out of the rocks; he shewed us one rock, out of which grew thirty-one different kinds of trees and shrubs, particularly laurustina, perricant, and scorpion fenna. We next visited an old abbey founded in 1440, and dedicated to Saint Finian; it is still in pretty good repair (except the steeple) and ornamented with a fine Gothic stone window, encircled with the tendrils of a hop tree, which grow spontaneously under it; here are twenty-two cells round a cloyster of thirty feet square; in the middle stands a very lofty yew tree, six feet and a half in circumference, whose aspiring branches spreading almost over the whole pile, pro-

duced a very pleasing appearance: ascending about twenty stone steps, we came to Captain Drake's hermitage, where a person of that name formerly resided: they shewed us a space in the wall where he used to lye on coffin boards, and pretended to feed on rats; however, on enquiry we found he often changed his manner of living, and after an excursion to Killarney, he frequently returned to his lonely habitation more under the influence of jolly Bacchus than any rigid self-denying Dæmon of that lonely place. Here are a great number of tombs, many of which are much defaced by time; among them we saw the tombstone of one Daniel Kerry, who was a noted highwayman, and the Robin Hood of those parts. After viewing every thing curious in this delightful place, we resumed our voyage on the lake, and passed two rocks, each of which has two arches hollowed by the water, and in such a manner as to resemble the nicest art. We landed between five and six near Ross Castle, and returned by land to Killarney.

Sept. 11th, about nine o'clock, we mounted our horses, and rode to the foot of the noted mountain called Mangerton, to the top of which is reckoned seven miles from the town of Killarney, three of which we rode, but the mountain growing pretty steep we alighted, and walked up the remainder; the summit is chiefly a bog, or swamp, composed of red moss and water, but tolerably firm. From the side of the mountain about half way up we viewed the two lakes, containing thirty-eight islands, as if laid down in a map. Near the top we saw a round hole or lake (about a quarter of a mile in diameter, and said to be unfathomable) called the Devil's Punch-bowl, from which Counsellor Herbert has lately cut a channel through the mountain two miles in length, which when filled with its overflow forms the finest cataract about the lakes. From the top we had a prospect of the great Atlantic ocean, the mouth of the river Kenmare, and the nine Skelig islands, standing about ten miles from the shore; we spent near three hours in ascending this

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this mountain, and did not the extensive and variable prospect the traveller enjoys from its top in some measure compensate for his toil, he would very probably repent his having undertaken so laborious an adventure as climbing the steep sides of Mangerton. It took us near two hours walking down again, though our direction was pretty straight; we reached the bottom by two o'clock, and rode to Killarney to dinner.

Thus ended our visit to the Lake of Killarney, a sight equally curious and surprising, and of which no adequate idea can be formed but by those who have witnessed the beauties of it. I shall conclude this account with the saying of the celebrated Berkley, Bishop of Cloyne, a sentence, though hackneyed on this occasion, can scarcely be too often repeated—"Another Louis the Fourteenth may make another Versailles, but nothing short of Omnipotence could ever make another Killarney."

The town of Killarney is small and handsome, consisting of four streets; it has a new court-house, of an unfinished appearance, and a small plain church. Lord Kenmare's seat is inferior in size and elegance to what might be expected, having but little uniformity about it. There is a pretty kind of variegated marble dug here, and used for chimney pieces in most houses. The situation of the town is rather low, but the country about it well improved; it lies from the lake about one mile and a quarter, and has a fine appearance from it. There is a considerable manufactory of woolen

and cotton yarn carried on here, in which trade it seems increasing. It is distant from Dublin 125, from Corke 38, Limerick 50, Tralu 12, and Waterford 76 miles. Long. 9, 30 M. W. Lat. 31, 52 N.

Rates as usually paid on seeing Killarney Lakes.

	Irish.
Coxswain of the six-oared barge sent by Lord Kenmare's agent	s. d. 11 4½
If none sent, and only the boat's own coxswain	5 5
Six men at oars, 1s. 7½d. each, is per day	9 9
4lb. of powder fires 16 shots, quarter of a pound to every charge	8 0
French horn	5 5
Band of music	1 2 9
Gardener at Mucrufs	2 8½
Guide, and person to describe the lakes per day	1 7½
Ditto to Mangerton mountain	1 7½
Total	£.3 8 8

The above are the expences of a company, which will consequently be lessened or increased according to the number of it.

The principal inn is the M'Carthy's Arms, where good accommodation is given at a reasonable price, and suitable persons for showing the lakes provided.

Our readers may find another account of the Lake of Killarney in our Magazine for June 1782, Vol. LI. p. 268.

FOR THE LONDON MAGAZINE. MORAL REFLECTIONS.

The heavens and earth God's handy works proclaim,
While saints and angels join to praise his name.

ON a late journey into the country, with a companion every way suited to my own taste and disposition, I could not help observing how evidently the great Creator's wisdom and goodness may be seen in all his works; and frequently exclaimed, from a pleasing view of the amazing plenty (espe-

cially of fruits of all kinds) which presented itself to my daily observation on every side, Truly the Lord is good to all, and his tender mercies are over all his works!—The earth is full of the riches of the Lord, and let all people sing aloud his praise!—Oh! that men would praise the Lord for his goodness.

ness!—But, alas! how little are we in the general affected with a grateful sense of the Lord's mercies! how little are we concerned to *live* as well as *speak* his praise. Swallowed up in the pursuit of pleasure and fashionable diversions, the giddy multitude pass on from one day to another, regardless of their Maker, Preserver, and bountiful Benefactor.—Base ingratitude! Let the beasts that perish live upon the bounties of their Creator, unmindful of his goodness, and strangers to his praise; but let not man, the lord of this lower world, forget the hand that feeds him, or cease to bless *his* name who giveth him all things richly to enjoy.

As I passed by orchards loaded with fruit on every bough, or surveyed the meadows clothed with ripening corn, while peace and plenty seemed to smile around, I was naturally led to cry out with the psalmist, David, *Thou openest thine hand, O God! and satisfieth the desire of every living thing*; and join in singing with the ingenious and pious Dr. Watts,

He makes the grass the hills adorn,
And clothes the smiling fields with corn;

His goodness all the earth displays,
To Him be everlasting praise.

How little do even the best of men reflect on the infinite obligations they are under to the God of all mercies for the blessings they enjoy, the favours they partake of, and the mercies granted to them! Well may it be said, *the ox knoweth his owner, and the ass his master's crib, but Israel doth not know, my people do not consider*.—Ingratitude is often stiled a worse sin than witchcraft, but what is ingratitude among men to ingratitude to God, the greatest and best of beings; unthankfulness towards Him in whom alone we live, move, and have our being, is undoubtedly a sin of the deepest dye, while it plainly evidences the corruption of our hearts, the degeneracy of our natures, and the stubbornness of our wills; to have our daily wants supplied, our lives prolonged, and health continued to us, estranged from misery, pain, and woe, afford abundant matter for us to be lost in wonder, love, and praise. May the goodness of the Lord lead us to repentance, and let all the people say Amen.

THE RURAL CHRISTIAN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE LONDON MAGAZINE.

S I R,

AS some alterations took place in the corps of engineers on the 1st of October, you will undoubtedly confer a favour on your readers by laying the following account of these changes before them.

I am, Sir, your constant reader,

Carey street, Oct. 28, 1784.

E.

TO THE MASTER-GENERAL OF THE ORDNANCE.

G E O R G E R.

WHEREAS you have represented to us that the works to be carried on in various parts of our dominions will make it necessary to employ a great number of engineers; and the extra pay which was given them when employed during the last war being greater than we judged reasonable to allow in times of peace, we have thought proper to order, and do hereby direct, that all former allowances of extra pay to officers of our corps of engineers shall cease from the 30th day of September next; and that, in lieu thereof, the following allowances of extra pay shall commence on the 1st of October next, viz,

To each of our engineers who shall be employed in Africa, of whatever rank he may be, an allowance of 20s. per day.

To each of our engineers who shall be employed in the island of Jamaica, or any of our islands in the West-Indies, or any of our provinces of Quebec, island of St. John, Nova Scotia, or Newfoundland, an allowance equal to the ordinary pay which, according to his rank in our corps of Engineers, he will be entitled to receive on the establishment hereinafter directed to take place.

To each of our engineers who shall be employed at Gibraltar, or in Great-Britain,

Britain, Jersey, or Guernsey, or the Isle of Man, an allowance, equal to one half of the ordinary pay, which, according to his rank in our corps of engineers, he will be entitled to receive on the establishment herein after directed to take place; but such allowance is not to extend to the engineer in chief in Great-Britain or at Gibraltar. All which allowances are to commence in respect to each officer on the day he sets out from the place where he was before resident for the place to which he is ordered, and are to cease from the day he quits his station; and these allowances of extra pay to engineers are to be in lieu of all other allowances for lodging, fire, and candle, and for travelling within five miles of the place where they are stationed.

We have moreover thought proper to order, and do hereby direct, that an allowance equal to the ordinary pay, which, according to his rank in our corps of engineers, he will be entitled to receive on the establishment, herein after directed to take place shall be made to each of our engineers who shall be employed in making surveys; such allowance to be independent of the above-mentioned allowances of extra pay, or of allowances for travelling to and from the place where he may be employed, but is to be in lieu of all bills for horse-hire, boat-hire, extraordinary contingencies, or travelling, whilst employed in carrying on surveys, and is to be made only during such time as he shall be actually in the field, or moving from place to place for such purpose. But it is not our intention that this regulation shall affect the allowance of 20s. per day, which by our warrant of 31st July, 1765, we have made to our trusty and well beloved Lieutenant-Colonel William Roy, one of our engineers for inspecting, surveying, and making reports from time to time of the state of the coasts and districts of the country adjacent to the coasts of this kingdom, and the islands thereunto belonging.

And whereas you have represented to us, that it may happen that some officers of our corps of engineers may not be able, from age or infirmities,

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to perform such duties as our service requires, and that there is no provision of a corps of invalids for engineers to retire to, as there is for officers in other branches of our service, we have thought fit to establish, and do hereby establish a corps of Invalid Engineers, to consist of

	Per Day.	Per Ann.
	s. d.	£. s. d.
One Colonel at	18 0	328 15 0
One Lieut. Colonel	15 0	273 10 0
Two Captains	10 0	365 0 0
One ditto	6 0	109 10 0
One Lieutenant	4 8	85 3 4
One 2d ditto	4 0	73 0 0
7 officers	£.2 17 8	£.1234 18 4

And whereas you have represented to us, that the great number of subaltern officers in the present establishment of our corps of engineers, in proportion to the number of captains, is larger than in our royal regiment of artillery, whereby their advancement in respect to rank is greatly retarded, we have thought proper to direct that the present establishment of our corps of engineers, as ordered by our warrant of the 18th of November, 1782, consisting of

Rank.	Per Day.	Per Ann.
	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Master General	0 0 0	0 0 0
Lieut. General	0 0 0	0 0 0
Engineer in Chief	2 4 0	803 0 0
Six Colonels	0 17 0	1861 10 0
Six Lieut. Cols.	0 15 0	1642 10 0
Nine Captains	0 10 0	1642 10 0
Nine ditto	0 6 0	985 10 0
22 Lieutenants	0 4 8	1873 13 4
22 Second ditto	0 4 0	1606 0 0
		£.10,414 13 4

shall cease on the 30th of September next, and that in lieu thereof the following new establishment shall take on the 1st of October next:

Rank.	Per Day.	Per Ann.
	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Master General	0 0 0	0 0 0
Lieut. General	0 0 0	0 0 0
Chief Engineer	2 4 0	803 0 0
Five Cols. each	0 18 0	1642 10 0
3 B		Five

Five Lieut. Cols.	o	15	o	1368	15	o
Ten Captains	o	10	o	1825	o	o
Ten Captains	o	6	o	1095	o	o
Twenty Lieuts.	o	4	8	1703	6	8
Ten 2d Lieuts.	o	4	o	730	o	o
Corps of Invalids	2	17	8	1234	10	o

Total £. 10,402 10 o

And we do direct, that whenever any engineer is unable to attend such duty as he may be ordered upon, and you shall judge that he is entitled from his services to retire, you do place him in the corps of Invalids, in the same rank he held in the corps in case there shall be a vacancy, and in case there should not be a vacancy of such rank that shall happen in the said corps of Invalids; and no officer who shall be appointed to the Invalids, or shall be entered in the office of clerk of our Ordnance to succeed to a vacancy in that corps, shall at any time after rise to any higher rank; and no invalid officer shall be liable to be called upon to serve again, except in cases of great emergency, and then only in Great-Britain.

And we do further direct, that when there shall be any vacancies in the corps of Invalid Engineers, and there shall not happen to be any of the acting engineers proper to fill them up, you do recommend to us additional officers to be appointed to the acting corps of engineers, who are to be entitled to promotion, are to be employed where wanted, and are, in all respects, to be considered as forming part of the corps of acting engineers, provided that on the whole no greater number of officers of each rank be kept or paid than shall be borne on the two establishments of acting and invalid engineers, and no greater expence for established pay incurred than the sum of 10,402l. 10s.

And whereas by this alteration of our establishment of the corps of engineers the present six junior second lieutenants will become supernumerary, we do direct, that no vacancies shall be filled up till the number of second lieutenants be reduced to ten, agreeable to this new establishment; but that till such reduction shall be completed, the

number of second lieutenants over and above those fixed by the new establishment shall continue and serve as supernumerary second lieutenants in our said corps of engineers, and shall receive pay accordingly.

And whereas you have represented to us, that it would be for the benefit of our service if a committee of engineers were established, to which all plans and estimates for the construction of new works or buildings, or for the repairs or alterations of old ones, were referred, and on which the said committee should report to the Master General of our Ordnance, previous to their being carried into execution; we do hereby direct you to appoint a committee of five engineers, for the purpose of which the chief engineer shall be president, and two at least of the other four shall be field officers.

And we do hereby direct, that the said committee shall meet at the Ordnance-office in the Tower, two days in every week, or as often as the Master General may think necessary, to receive, examine, and report upon the several plans and estimates that shall be referred to them; and that the clerk to the chief engineer, and the draftsman appointed to attend him, shall act as clerks to the said committee, and shall keep copies of all plans and estimates referred to the said committee, and of their proceedings thereupon. And we direct, that the four engineers who shall be appointed to this committee, to assist the engineer in chief, shall be considered as employed, and shall receive an allowance of extra pay, like other engineers employed in Great-Britain, that is to say, equal to one half of their ordinary pay, which, according to their rank in the corps, they will by this establishment be entitled to receive; and for so doing this is a sufficient warrant.

Given at our court at St. James's, this 21st day of July, 1784, in the 24th year of our reign.

By his Majesty's command,
(Signed) SYDNEY,

To our Right Trusty, and Right entirely beloved Cousin and Counsellor, Charles Duke of Richmond, Lenox, and Aubigny, Master General of our Ordnance.

F O R

FOR THE LONDON MAGAZINE.
A DISSERTATION ON THE IDEA OF UNIVERSAL POETRY.

Ποιητὴν πᾶν ἄ σποχαλίσθαι

Φυχαγωγίας, ὃ διδασκαλίας.

ERATOSTHENES.

WHEN we speak of poetry as an art, we mean such a way or method of treating a subject as is found most pleasing and delightful to us. In all other kinds of literary composition, pleasure is subordinate to use: in poetry only pleasure is the end, to which use itself (however it be, for certain reasons, always pretended) must submit.

This idea of the end of poetry is no novel one, but indeed the very same which our great philosopher entertained of it—who gives it as the essential note of this part of learning, that it submits the shews of things to the desires of the mind: whereas reason doth buckle and bow the mind unto the nature of things. For to gratify the desires of the mind is to please: pleasure, then, in the idea of Lord Bacon, is the ultimate and appropriate end of poetry; for the sake of which it accommodates itself to the desires of the mind, and doth not (like other kinds of writing, which are under the control of reason) bow the mind to the nature of things.

This notion of the end of poetry, if kept steadily in view, will unfold to us all the mysteries of the poetic art. The art of poetry will then be, universally, the art of pleasing; and all its rules but so many means which experience finds most conducive to that end;

Sic animis natum inventumque poema juvandis.

Aristotle has delivered and explained these rules, so far as they respect one species of poetry, the dramatic, or, more properly speaking, the tragic: And when such a writer as he shall do as much by the other species, then, and not till then, a complete art of poetry will be formed.

I shall now only attempt to deduce some general conclusions concerning Universal Poetry, which seem preparatory to those nicer disquisitions concerning its several sorts or species.

L. It follows from that idea, that it should neglect no advantage that fairly offers itself of appearing in such a dress or mode of language as is most *taking* and agreeable to us. We may expect then, in the language or style of poetry, a choice of such words as are most sonorous and expressive, and such an arrangement of them as throws the discourse out of the ordinary and common phrase of conversation. Novelty and variety are certain sources of pleasure: a construction of words which is not vulgar is, therefore, more suited to the ends of poetry than one which we are every day accustomed to in familiar discourse. Some manners of placing them are also more agreeable to the ear than others: poetry then is studious of these, as it would by all means, not manifestly absurd, give pleasure: and hence a certain musical cadence, or what we call *rhythm*, will be affected by the poet,

But, of all the means of adorning and enlivening a discourse by words, there is none that pleases more than figurative expression.

By figurative expression I would be understood to mean here that which respects the pictures or images of things. And this sort of figurative expression is universally pleasing to us, because it tends to impress on the mind the most distinct and vivid conceptions; and truth of representation being of less account in this way of composition than the liveliness of it, poetry, as such, will delight in tropes and figures, and those the most strongly and forcibly expressed. And though the application of figures will admit of great variety, according to the nature of the subject, and the management of them must be suited to the taste and apprehension of the people to whom they are addressed, yet, in some way or other, they will find a place in all works of poetry; and they, who object to the use of them, only shew that they

are not capable of being pleased by this sort of composition, or do in effect interdict the thing itself.

The ancients looked for so much of this force and spirit of expression in whatever they dignified with the name of poem, that Horace tells us it was made a question by some, whether comedy were rightly referred to this class, because it differed only in point of measure from mere prose.

But they might have spared their doubt, or at least have resolved it, if they had considered that comedy adopts as much of this force and spirit of words as is consistent with the nature and degree of that pleasure which it pretends to give. For the name of poem will belong to every composition whose primary end is to please, provided it be so constructed as to afford all the pleasure which its kind or sort will permit.

II. From the idea of the end of poetry, it follows, that not only figurative and tropical terms will be employed in it, as these, by the images they convey, and by the air of novelty which such indirect ways of speaking carry with them, are found most delightful to us, but also that fiction, in the largest sense of the word, is essential to poetry. For its purpose is, not to delineate truth simply, but to present it in the most taking forms; not to reflect the real face of things, but to illustrate and adorn it; not to represent the fairest objects only, but to represent them in the fairest lights, and to heighten all their beauties up to the possibility of their natures; nay, to outstrip nature, and to address itself to our wildest fancy, rather than to our judgement and cooler sense.

There is something in the mind of man sublime and elevated, which prompts it to overlook all obvious and familiar appearances, and to feign to itself other and more extraordinary; such as correspond to the extent of its own powers, and fill out all the faculties and capacities of our souls. This restless and aspiring disposition poetry first and principally would indulge and flatter; and thence takes its name of divine, as if some power above human

conspired to lift the mind to these exalted conceptions.

Hence it comes to pass, that it deals in apostrophes and invocations; that it impersonates the virtues and vices; peoples all creation with new and living forms; calls up infernal spectres to terrify, or brings down celestial natures to astonish the imagination; assembles, combines, or connects its ideas at pleasure; in short, prefers not only the agreeable and the graceful, but, as occasion calls upon her, the vast, the incredible, I had almost said, the impossible, to the obvious truth and nature of things. For all this is but a feeble expression of that magic virtue of poetry which our Shakspeare has so forcibly described in those well-known lines—

The poet's eye, in a fine frenzy rolling,
Doth glance from heav'n to earth, from earth to heav'n;

And, as imagination bodies forth

The forms of things unknown, the poet's pen
Turns them to shape, and gives to airy nothing
A local habitation and a name.

When the received system of manners or religion in any country happens to be so constituted as to suit itself in some degree to this extravagant turn of the human mind, we may expect that poetry will seize it with avidity, will dilate upon it with pleasure, and take a pride to erect its specious wonders on so proper and convenient a ground. Whence it cannot seem strange, that, of all the forms in which poetry has appeared, that of pagan fable and gothic romance should, in their turns, be found the most alluring to the true poet.

III. It follows from the same idea of the end which poetry would accomplish, that not only rhythm, but numbers, properly so called, is essential to it. For this art undertaking to gratify all those desires and expectations of pleasure that can be reasonably entertained by us, and there being a capacity in language, the instrument it works by, of pleasing us very highly, not only by the sense and imagery it conveys, but by the structure of words, and still more by the harmonious arrangement of them in metrical sounds or numbers, and lastly, there being

being no reason in the nature of the thing itself why these pleasures should not be united, it follows that poetry will not be that which it professes to be, that is, will not accomplish its own purpose, unless it delight the ear with numbers, or, in other words, unless it be clothed in verse.

All poetry aspires to please by melodious numbers. To some species it is thought more essential than to others, because those species continue to be sung, that is, are more immediately addressed to the ear; and because they continue to be sung in concert with musical instruments, by which the ear is still more indulged. It happened in ancient Greece, that even tragedy retained this accompaniment of musical instruments through all its stages, and even in its most improved state. Whence Aristotle includes music, properly so called, as well as rhythm and metre, in his idea of the tragic poem. He did this, because he found the drama of his country *omnibus numeris absolutum*, I mean in possession of all the advantages which could result from the union of rhythmical, metrical, and musical sounds. Modern tragedy has relinquished part of these: yet still, if it be true that this poem be more pleasing by the addition of the musical art, and there be nothing in the nature of the composition which forbids the use of it, I know not why Aristotle's idea should not be adopted, and his precept become a standing law of the tragic stage. For this, as every other poem, being calculated and designed properly and ultimately to please, whatever contributes to produce that end most perfectly, all circumstances taken into the account, must be thought of the nature or essence of the kind.

But, without carrying matters so far, let us confine our attention to metre, or what we call verse. This must be essential to every work bearing the name of poem, not because we are only accustomed to call works written in verse poems, but because a work which professes to please us by every possible and proper method, and yet does not give us this pleasure, which it is in its power, and is no way im-

proper for it to give, must so far fall short of fulfilling its own engagements to us; that is, it has not all those qualities which we have a right to expect in a work of literary art, of which pleasure is the ultimate end.

To explain myself by an obvious instance. History undertakes to instruct us in the transactions of past times. If it answer this purpose, it does all that is of its nature; and if it find means to please us besides, by the harmony of its style and vivacity of its narration, all this is to be accounted as pure gain: if it instructed only, by the truth of its reports and the perspicuity of its method, it would fully attain its end. Poetry, on the other hand, undertakes to please. If it employ all its powers to this purpose it effects all that is of its nature: if it serve besides to inform or instruct us by the truths it conveys, and by the precepts or examples it inculcates, this service may rather be accepted than required by us: if it pleased only by its ingenious fictions and harmonious structure, it would discharge its office, and answer its end.

I am the larger on this head, to shew that it is not a mere verbal dispute, as it is commonly thought, whether poems should be written in verse or no. Men may include, or not include, the idea of metre in their complex idea of what they call a poem. What I contend for, is, that metre, as an instrument of pleasing, is essential to every work of poetic art, and would therefore enter into such idea, if men judged of poetry according to its confessed nature and end.

Whence it may seem a little strange, that my Lord Bacon should speak of poesy as a part of learning in measure of words for the most part restrained; when his own notion, as we have seen above, was, that the essence of poetry consisted in submitting the shews of things to the desires of the mind. For these *shews of things* could only be exhibited to the mind through the medium of words: and it is just as natural for the mind to desire that these words should be harmonious, as that the images conveyed in them should be

be illustrious; there being a capacity in the mind of being delighted through its organ, the ear, as well as through its power or faculty of imagination. And the wonder is the greater, because the great philosopher himself was aware of the agreement and consort which poetry hath with music, as well as with man's nature and pleasure, that is, with the pleasure which naturally results from gratifying the imagination. So that, to be consistent with himself, he should, methinks, have said, that poesy was a part of learning in measure of words always restrained; such poesy, as, through the idleness or negligence of writers, is not so restrained, not agreeing to his own idea of this part of learning*.

These reflections will afford a proper solution of that question which has been agitated by the critics, "Whether a work of fiction and imagination (such as that of the Archbishop of Cambray, for instance) conducted in other respects according to the rules of the epic poem, but written in prose, may deserve the name of poem, or not." For, though it be frivolous indeed to dispute about names, yet from what has been said it appears, that if metre be not incongruous to the nature of an epic composition, and it afford a pleasure which is not to be found in mere prose, metre is for that reason essential to this mode of writing; which is only saying in other words that an epic composition, to give all the pleasure which it is capable of giving, must be written in verse.

But, secondly, this conclusion, I think, extends farther than to such works as aspire to the name of epic. For instance, what are we to think of those novels or romances, as they are called, that is, fables constructed on some private and familiar subject, which have been so current of late through all Europe? As they propose pleasure for their end, and prosecute it besides in the way of fiction, though without metrical numbers, and generally indeed in harsh and rugged prose, one easily sees what their pretensions are, and under what idea they are ambitious to

be received. Yet, as they are wholly destitute of measured sounds (to say nothing of their other numberless defects) they can, at most, be considered but as hasty, imperfect, and abortive poems; whether spawned from the dramatic or narrative species, it may be hard to say—

Unfinish'd things, one knows not what to call,
Their generation's so equivocal.

However, such as they are, these novelties have been generally well received: some, for the real merit of their execution; others, for their amusing subjects; all of them, for the gratification they afford, or promise at least, to a vitiated, palled, and sickly imagination—that last disease of learned minds, and sure prognostic of expiring letters. But whatever may be the temporary success of these things (for they vanish as fast as they are produced, and are produced as soon as they are conceived) good sense will acknowledge no work of art but such as is composed according to the laws of its kind. These kinds, as arbitrary things as we account them (for I neither forget nor dispute what our best philosophy teaches concerning kinds and sorts) have yet so far their foundation in nature and the reason of things, that it will not be allowed us to multiply or vary them at pleasure. We may indeed mix and confound them, if we will (for there is a sort of literary luxury, which would engross all pleasures at once, even such as are contradictory to each other) or, in our rage for incessant gratification, we may take up with half-formed pleasures, such as come first to hand, and may be administered by any body: but true taste requires chaste, severe, and simple pleasures; and true genius will only be concerned in administering such.

Lastly, on the same principle on which we have decided on these questions concerning the absolute merits of poems in prose, in all languages, we may also determine another, which has been put concerning the comparative merits of rhymed, and what is called blank verse, in our own and the other modern languages.

Critics

* Adv. of learning, Vol. I. p. 50. Dr. Birch's ed. 1765.

Critics and antiquaries have been solicitous to find out who were the inventors of rhyme, which some fetch from the Monks, some from the Goths, and others from the Arabians: whereas, the truth seems to be, that rhyme, or the consonance of final syllables, occurring at stated intervals, is the dictate of nature, or, as we may say, an appeal to the ear, in all languages, and in some degree pleasing in all. The difference is, that in some languages these consonances are apt of themselves to occur so often, that they rather nauseate than please, and so, instead of being affected, are studiously avoided by good writers; while in others, as in all the modern ones, where these consonances are less frequent, and where the quantity of syllables is not so distinctly marked as of itself to afford an harmonious measure and musical variety, there it is of necessity that poets have had recourse to rhyme; or to some other expedient of the like nature, such as the *alliteration*, for instance; which is only another way of delighting the ear by iterated sound, and may be defined the consonance of initial letters, as rhyme is the consonance of final syllables. All this, I say, is of necessity, because what we call verses in such languages will be otherwise untuneful, and will not strike the ear with that vivacity which is requisite to put a sensible difference between poetic numbers and measured prose.

In short, no method of gratifying the ear by measured sound, which experience has found pleasing, is to be neglected by the poet. But he must cultivate only those methods which tend to produce, in a given language, the most harmonious structure or measure of which it is capable.

Hence it comes to pass that the poetry of some modern languages cannot so much as subsist without rhyme; in others, it is only embellished by it. Of the former sort is the French, which therefore adopts, and with good reason, rhymed verse, not in tragedy only, but in comedy.

In the latter class of languages, whose poetry is only embellished by

the use of rhyme, we may reckon the Italian and the English: which being naturally more tuneful and harmonious than the French, may afford all the melody of sound which is expected in some sorts of poetry, by its varied pause and quantity only. Thus, our tragedies are usually composed in blank verse: but our epic and lyric compositions are found most pleasing when clothed in rhyme. Milton, I know, it will be said, is an exception: but, if we set aside some learned persons who have suffered themselves to be too easily prejudiced by their admiration of the Greek and Latin languages, and still more perhaps by the prevailing notion of the monkish or gothic original of rhymed verse, all other readers, if left to themselves, would, I dare say, be more delighted with this poet, if, besides his various pauses and measured quantity, he had enriched his numbers with rhyme. So that his love of liberty, the ruling passion of his heart, perhaps transported him too far, when he chose to follow the example set him by one or two writers of prime note (to use his own eulogium) rather than comply with the regular and prevailing practice of his favoured Italy, which first and principally, as our best rhymist sings,

With pauses, cadence, and well-vowell'd words,
And all the graces a good ear affords,
Made rhyme an art—

Our comedy indeed is generally written in prose; but through the idleness or ill taste of our writers, rather than from any other just cause. For, though rhyme be not necessary, or rather would be improper, in the comedy of our language, which can support itself in poetic numbers without the diligence of rhyme; yet some sort of metre is requisite in this humbler species of poem; otherwise it will not contribute all that is within its power and province to please. And the particular metre proper for this species is not far to seek. For it can plainly be no other than a careless and looser iambic, such as our language naturally runs into.

And thus much for the idea of Universal poetry. It is the art of treating any

any subject in such a way as is found most delightful to us; that is, in an ornamented and numerous style—in the way of fiction—and in verse. Whatever deserves the name of poem must unite these three properties; only in different degrees of each, according to its nature. For the art of every kind of poetry is only this general art so modified as the nature of each, that is, its more immediate and subordinate end, may respectively require.

We are now then at the well-head of the poetic art; and they who drink deeply of this spring will be best qualified to perform the rest. But all heads are not equal to these copious draughts; and besides I hear the sober reader admonishing me long since—

Lufisti fatis atque bibifti;
Tempus abire tibi est, ne potum largius æquo
Rideat, et pulset lasciva decentius ætas.

P. D.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE LONDON MAGAZINE.

S I R,

BY inserting the following narrative in your respectable Miscellany you will oblige your constant reader,
O. N.

NOTWITHSTANDING the very long and peculiar hardships which the Honourable Colonel Gordon, of the guards, has suffered from a late unhappy transaction, it seems that the influence of misrepresentation and prejudice has not yet entirely subsided, and that his conduct throughout that unfortunate business has not yet been deemed fully sufficient in the eyes of a limited few belonging to his profession. In order, therefore, to remove every possible censure on the ground of Col. Gordon's not having taken the earliest opportunity of vindicating his injured honour, the following facts are offered to the liberal and candid part of mankind, without any comment being intended to accompany them from the person who requests the indulgence of the public in stating them. It appears that in the month of June, 1783, the officers belonging to Col. Gordon's corps were assembled for the purpose of taking his conduct with regard to the late Col. Thomas into consideration; and at that meeting, it appeared to be their opinion, that Col. Gordon had not pursued the measures that were most likely to vindicate his injured fame. It was the misfortune of Col. Gordon to be absent from this meeting, as it must naturally be supposed, that, had the gentlemen of the corps seen the challenge which he sent to Lieut. Col. Thomas at New-York, on the 15th of October 1780, together with his an-

swer (both of which are here subjoined) they could not have thought that he had *not* taken proper steps to vindicate his injured reputation at an *early* and *seasonable* period; and by the tenor of the unfortunate Col. Thomas's refusal at *that* time, they must also have been convinced that Col. Thomas himself had limited the season for satisfaction, and that the *late hour* was an hour of his *own fixing*. It was likewise a circumstance not favourable to Col. Gordon in the decision of his corps, that among those who sat in judgment on his private conduct there were *twenty-seven very respectable young men* whom he never had *even* the honour to see, owing to his being six years absent upon service in America, and the very rapid promotion which during that time took place in the regiment. These gentlemen (without being uncharitable in suggestion) it is possible might have been biassed in their judgements, and deceived by reports not founded on truth, soon after the return of his calumniator to Europe in the month of *November, 1780*. It is further to be observed, that there are but six officers of the third regiment of guards now alive in the corps, who were in America in the campaign of 1780, from the period the brigade went into the Jerseys, where the ground of this quarrel originated, on the 6th or 7th of June, until they embarked for Virginia, on the 16th of October, consequently there were

were but six officers who could be acquainted with the merits of the traduced Col. Gordon's private conduct with regard to the vindication of his honour: and as his *first* challenge to Col. Thomas was dated on the morning of the 15th of October, the day preceding their embarkation, it is more than probable that those six officers did not know this challenge had been sent. In this view, the whole meeting of his corps might have concluded that Col. Gordon's *second* call on Col. Thomas for vindication, the 20th of June, 1783, was the *first* demand he had made of him for reparation of his injured character, especially as the language which Col. Thomas had fancied to use, upon declining Col. Gordon's *second* invitation, seems intended to make it appear to that meeting (which it is said to have been laid before) as the *first* or only challenge he could have received: (vide Col. Thomas's answer to that challenge, in Col. Gordon's trial at the Old Bailey, the 17th of September) whereas the demand which Col. Gordon had made on Col. Thomas in October, 1780, was dated the *very first moment* it was in his power to make it, consistent with the nature of Col. Thomas's situation, from the court martial (which, at the instance of a previous court of enquiry) had taken place upon him, and the hope which Col. Gordon then looked for of a *court martial on himself*. In consequence of the cruel calumny of the late Col. Thomas, Col. Gordon has, in the course of four anxious years, in the vindication of his injured honour, had, in a *public and private manner, three trials for his life*; in the event, happily for him, all *most* honourable. In the first trial, before a general court martial, on the 4th of September, 1782, at New York, he "*was honourably acquitted of the whole and every part of the charge exhibited against him*;" (and here it is but proper to remark, that the delay of his Majesty's most gracious pleasure on Col. Gordon's prayer for a court martial, together with a combination of vexatious circumstances in the campaigns of 80, 81, and part of 82, put it out of his power to have procured an earlier

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investigation). In the second trial, in the *private* vindication of his injuries (when his opponent or he himself must have fallen) it was the will of Providence the aggressor should fall, and the oppressed escape wounded. This took place on the 4th of September, 1783, and seems to be a particular event in the order of things. On this fatal decision, at the ring in Hyde-Park, it is hoped that Col. Gordon's most prejudiced foes will do justice to his conduct. It was then the lot of Col. Gordon to become an exile for the fourth year under a shocking imputation, from a cruel verdict of the coroner's jury. On the 17th of September, 1784, he surrendered himself to the laws of his country as his *last* trial, and before the most respectable jurisdiction he was *acquitted* by a jury of the county of Middlesex, in a manner, that, while it must always reflect honour on their justice and humanity in his peculiar situation, can prove no less flattering and creditable to the reputation and character of Col. Gordon!

It must ever be a heartfelt satisfaction to Col. Gordon and his friends to recollect, that while his conduct in this unfortunate, and by *him* unsought-for business, seems to be marked with an uncandid disapprobation by a *limited* few, the general sentiments of that gallant and generous army which served in America during the late unfortunate war have been conveyed most kindly in his favour, through the very flattering and honourable medium of the highest rank of its officers, who, unconnected with the interest of events, only guided by unerring truth, and that superior knowledge of the past proceedings which their attention to duty and local situations afforded them, have nobly stood forth in declaring their sense of Col. Gordon's entire conduct throughout the whole of this unhappy affair.

This is a tribute to character worthy any person's pride, for with such nice and proper guardians of honour none but the injured and deserving ever find countenance. The numerous list of high and distinguished officers of that army, with and under whom Col. Gordon had

had the honour to serve in America, who appeared at his late trial (even at a season of the year so inconvenient to their attendance) proves beyond a doubt, that Col. Gordon, in their opinions, had omitted no proper step to vindicate his honour, both as an *officer* and a *gentleman*, that time, reason, or circumstances could possibly justify.

Nor indeed is it possible for the most *indictive* gentleman *seriously* to lay his hand on his heart, and say that Col. Gordon has not vindicated his honour with the exertion of every effort and propriety that *man can do on this side of the grave*.

Copies of Col. Gordon's first challenge (as mentioned in these facts) and Col. Thomas's answer.

"New-York, Sunday morning,
"15th October, 1780.

"SIR,

"THE unwarrantable manner which you have used to traduce my character makes my claim to *personal vindication* just in my own opinion, and must in that of the *world*.

"I desire, therefore, you will meet me with a friend and two pair of pistols, half an hour after four o'clock this afternoon, on the north-side of Bunker's Hill fort, where there is a reclusé orchard near.

"I shall be at White-Conduit-house, with my friend, at four o'clock, ready to repair to the spot mentioned.

"I am, Sir, your much injured

"Obedient servant,

"COSMO GORDON."

"Lieut. Col. Thomas."

"New-York, 15th October, 1780.

"SIR,

"IN answer to the note which I have just received, I have only this to say, that it appears very extraordinary you should, at this *late hour*, think yourself entitled to call on me for *personal satisfaction*. Whether your character has been *traduced*, the late court martial on me (which, as you *know*, is still in *suspence*) must determine.

"You thought your honour required a court martial on me—you obtained it, and no steps were omitted that could tend to my dishonour or ruin.

"If, Sir, you can hereafter *prove* to the world that my original *accusation* (which I thought it my duty to make) was ill-founded, then, and then only, can you be entitled to that satisfaction from me; you, as an injured man, may have a right to demand.

"I am, Sir,

"Your most humble servant,

"FRED. THOMAS."

"You may spare yourself the trouble of writing any more on the subject."

N. B.—Any officer or gentleman who may be desirous of being convinced of the authenticity of these letters may see them, by applying to Mr. Murley, at the bar of the British Coffee-house, Charing Cross, with whom they are deposited for that purpose.

P O E T R Y.

THE BRAMIN; AN ODE.

TWAS beneath an hallow'd palm,
On Ganges' banks, a Bramin lay;
What time, in atmospheres of balm,
Eve's golden lids inclos'd the eye of day.
Then Vision, holy prophetess, pass'd by;
She mark'd the sage, and in his slumbering eye
Marshall'd many a mystic shade;
Many a drama she display'd,
That from his heart the blood of pity wrung.
India's wilderness of woes,
Bondage, rapine, murder rose,
The patriot-tear beheld, and up in frenzy sprung.

"Hark! that sound—'tis torture's cry!
The Christian vultures rage again—"

Yonder in caves our Rajahs die,
Rest of dominion—birthright was their bane.
Afair I see their famish'd orphans roam,
And none dare bid the princely wanderers home.
—Ha! what hireling fabres there
Round yon shivering victim glare!
Till goaded on his treasure he displays.
Now the slaves dislodge the hoard;
Bury now its slaughter'd lord;
While savagely serene their chief aloof surveys.
"India, rise! thy sword unhouse,
And red let retribution flow;
Round to thy monster-dens, and rouse
Their yelling tenants forth upon thy foe.
Convoke thy snakes, thy crocodiles from far,
Such dragon-hots besseem a Christian war.

Ruffians!

Ruffians!—if they 'scape from these,
'Scape thy demons of disease,
If ocean hence their guilt and plunder bear,
Rise, monsoons, nor yield retreat,
Rise, and smite their miscreant fleet,
The oaken ruins whelm, nor aught they harbour
spare.

" See sublimer vengeance rise!
Avant, ye tempests, tigers, snakes!
On Heaven such mighty mischief cries,
And Heaven in dread hostility awakes.
Lo! home that wretch attains, but how unblest!
Guilt peoples there the dungeon of his breast.
Horrors tend his wakeful lamp;
All his splendour horrors damp;
Misdeeds, like ghosts, before him threat'ning rise
—Livingly upstarts his hair,
Ha! his dagger clench'd and bare!
Mercy! that reeking plunge: his soul off scream-
ing flies.

" India, triumph and behold
The wolves their prey to Europe bear:
Their doom lurks brooding in thy gold,
Which here inert, sublimes to poison there.
At there dissolves the charities of life,
And mangles states by luxury and strife.
To thy tyrants 'tis decreed:
Gold and ruin be their meed!
This truth the fool of glory * felt of yore,
Britain's freedom—(Britain's all!)
By the spoils of thine shall fall;
Her iron-gripe shall cease, and thou shalt groan
no more."

J. F.

*Lines on Sir JOSHUA REYNOLDS's being
presented with the freedom of the Painters
Company, at the annual feast of St. Luke,
their patron.*

HAIL! favour'd master of that art divine,
Which bids all nature on the canvas shine;
That ever-beauteous, ever-friendly art
Which wakes y feelings, and w warms the heart;
Which to our eye restores the mighty dead,
And bids unfading laurels deck their head:
The lily mingled with the blushing rose,
Which on the cheek of Beauty transient blows,
By thee pourtray'd, can time and fate defy,
And still with mimic beauty charm the eye.

Thus lovely *Thais* †, from the master's hand,
Still blooms in youth, and still she grasps y brand:
Her pow'r the haughty victor well might own,
If such her charms as from thy pencil shewn.

When beauteous *Dido*'s ‡ bleeding form we see,
And view what once she was, display'd by thee,
We scorn *Aeneas* for the fancied wrong,
Yet praise the poet's sweetly-erring song,
Who form'd a tale so tender, though untrue,
Which borrows fame from *Maro* and from you.

Thus can thy magic pencil bring to sight
The charms of virtue in each varied light,
And steadfast *Faith* § or melting *Hope* § display;
We feel their beauties, and we own their sway.

But cease, vain muse, nor too advent'rous soar,
Each happy work of Reynolds to explore;

* Alexander the Great.

† Alluding to a painting of Sir Joshua's.

‡ Address to the Painters' Company.

Some pen more favour'd should record his fame,
Some happier poet celebrate his name:
Full blest the bard, if artless lines like these,
Grac'd by that name, can for a moment please;
That moment granted to peruse the lay,
Whilst he forgives the homage which you pay.

And ye protectors || of that pleasing art
Which warms, which animates, the feeling heart;
Which bids the pencil's vivid colours glow
With all the radiance of the heav'nly bow;
Who boast a *Thornhill*'s, *Aggas*'s, *Lambert*'s ¶
name,

Now add a *Reynolds* to your roll of fame;
In whose bright character, well pleas'd, we find
Genius and virtue happily combin'd.
May you still flourish opulent and great,
Your country's pride, till time's remotest date!
Health, wealth, and honours may you ever share,
Still worthy *CATTONS* dignify your chair;
To future ages *REYNOLDS* be restor'd,
And future *WESTS* and *COPLEYS* grace your
board!

A CITY MOUSE.

Painters-Hall, Oct. 18, 1784.

NEW AIRS in the Opera of ROBIN HOOD.

FRIAR TUCK.

I AM just arrived from the Holy Land,
Over the bush and under the briar;
I drink till I neither sit, walk, nor stand,
For I am a jolly old friar,
Oh! I am a merry old friar!

I've swallow'd hogheads, butts, gallons, and quarts,
Over the bush and under the briar,
So light my heart, mischance it ne'er thwarts
For I am a jolly old friar,
Oh! I am a merry old friar!

If on my way I meet a bonny lass,
Over the bush and under the briar,
Then I a blessing give—snug on the grass,
For I am a jolly old friar,
Oh! I am a merry old friar!

S T E L L A.

THE laughing pow'rs,
That led the wanton hours,
When May was in her prime,
Open'd the cells of flow'rs,
To airy paramours,
And bid the love-sick poet sigh in rhyme.

Oh! summer all so fair!
Oh! blisses all too high!
Oh! might she not have known
That sweetest flow'r the soonest blown,
Is soonest gone—

That clearest stream beneath a summer sky
Is soonest dry—

She never said
Can my dear love fly,
Till he was fled.

AIR and CHORUS.—ROBIN and ARCHERS.

DRAIN y jug, my hearts, while you have breath;
When grim Death comes, we'll drink to Death,

3 C 2

Push

§ Alluding to paintings of those masters in the Hall.

Push the pitcher round, my boys of spunk,
We'll drink to Death, till Death's dead drunk—
Then, my lads, in flowing bumpers strive
To drink to Death, till Death's alive!
Drain the jug, my hearts, while you have breath;
When grim Death comes, we'll drink to Death.

EPILOGUE TO DECEPTION.

Written by E. TOPHAM, Esq.

And spoken by Miss FARREN.

AS drowsy sentries, whom no thanks reward,
To yawning comrades yield & nightly guard,
So one sad comedy relieves another,
And dullness kindly finds as dull a brother.
Condemn'd to wade thro' all the tedium past,
I—your old epilogue—survive the last—
And here am left—poor pleader! to atone,
As well for others' errors—as my own.
For late you felt—nor long remov'd the time,
How soon from rhyme in prose—I pros'd in
rhyme.

The metred muse—each passion chim'd so pat,
Sir tag'd out this, and Madam jingled that:

“ 'Twas—pray, Mr. what your name, how do
you do? [how do you?

“ Pretty well, Sir, I thank you.—And, pray,

“ A touch of your snuff-box, my charming Miss
Fynch!— [pinch.”

“ To be sure, Sir—I'm always your friend at a

And yet, seduc'd by Hay-market flirtation,
Methinks I owe my friends some reparation;
For have I not, with strange unbridled fury,
Storm'd the mock tragedy of ancient *Drury*?
Laugh'd at her weeping heroes, boxing chiefs,
Her mournful pleasantries and joyous griefs,
Made lords and ladies all unpitied die,
Who wept, and fought, and bled—they knew not
why.

Yes:—but, unsullied by this casual stain,
Again shall rise the powers of *Drury-lane*;
Th' eternal handkerchief be hous'd hereafter,
And tragedy no more provoke your laughter.

But why thus dwell on sublunary things,
On paste-board sceptres, and on play-house kings!
Fancy with airy flights my noddle crouds,
I'm like the nation—wholly in the clouds.
Nothing for them too high—for me too hardy—
Give me a second trip with *Sieur Lunardi*!
There mounting, dauntless, to the pale fac'd moon,
Find out at last—that cats may die too soon:
Then spurn at dread of elemental wars,
To drink Madeira, and shake hands with stars;
Jostle the hawks and eagles as I go,
And leave the gaping pigeons far below.

—Below—where, fatt'ning on artillery fare,
Peers, chemuts, aldermen, and princes stare;
Such fare as makes all martial glory prouder,
—Store of stuff'd beef!—but not a grain of powder:
Soldiers enter'd!—and, did I wish for pelf,
I'd underwrite the garrison myself.

Oh! what a grand display such science yields!
Beaux from *Pye-corner*—Belles from *Spital-fields*!
Jews, dogs, and dust-carts nobly intervene,
And ministers on scaffolds close the scene!
By puff's inflammable, and fav'ring skies,
Say, then, to-night, shall our balloon arise;
Or, weight and ballast bathing each endeavour,
Shall it just curtsy, and then sink for ever?

PROLOGUE

To the new farce of AEROSTATION, per-
formed at the Theatre-Royal, Covent-Garden.

Spoken by Mr. WILSON.

TO-NIGHT's adventurer with awe looks
round,

And views the perils which his bark surround;
Three years are past since on this coast he came,
Bound on a dang'rous voyage in quest of fame.
Your smiles he'll deem propitious beams that rise,
Circling the star that lights his polar skies;
And, near approaching that magnetic part,
He feels the needle trembling at his heart.
But of our bard perhaps enough I've said,
When greater cares are lab'ring at my head.

I make no doubt to entertain you soon
With a new theatre in a *Stage Balloon*;
No more in garret high shall poets sit,
With rival spiders spinning cob-web wit;
Like ancient Barons future bards shall fare,
In their own castles built up in the air;
Dull poets then behind a cloud shall stay,
Whilst fancy, darting to the source of day,
Bold as an eagle, her career shall run,
And with strong pinions fan the rising sun.
But ere we raise our play-house to the skies,
As wit's prime minister I'll raise supplies;
For, sad to tell! above, as here below,
'Tis only money makes the mare to go;
Bubbles shall then be tax'd of ev'ry kind;
Why tax the light, and leave untax'd the wind?
First, for *Pinetii's* sake, of high renown,
Who'll steal the shirt off any man in town,
A heavy tax on common sense shall fall;
Nay, you may smile, but it affects you all:
Italian op'ras, like aliens, I've devis'd
Shall pay a poll-tax to be nat'raliz'd.

Farce, dance, and pantomime, with sprites and
dragons, [gods;

Shall pay the carriage-tax of broad-wheel'd wag-
And as for tragedy of modern date,
Let it contribute at quack med'cine rate.
A tax too we enact new pieces pay,
Apollo's civil list expences to defray;
Living or dead, henceforward we decree,
Damn'd or still-born, no author shall be free;
Genius shall pay for being born to fame,
And Dullness for the burial of its name.

Thus, if our *Ways and Means* the state you find,
I hope these aids will meet the *House's* mind.
On you the stage rests all her rising fate,
You give our wit both currency and weight;
From hence, like gold in circulation brought,
By all the world it eagerly is sought,
If critics come not on the mintage night,
To clip the sterling, and then call it light:
Assert our wishes, grant the meed we claim,
Praise that inspires, and smiles & guard our fame!

ADDRESS spoken by Mr. HULL, on Mr.
HOLMAN's first appearance on the Stage, in
the character of Romeo. Written by Mr.
BARVIS.

FROM Isis' banks, just wing'd his daring flight,
A college soph presents himself to night;
From heathen Greek, short commons, and long
pray'r,
Begging admission and protection here:

From Logic's fetters, and pedantic schools,
 From Aristotle's cold and cumb'rous rules,
 To Shakspeare's gentler Muse, and sprightlier scene,
 His active mind and youthful fancy lean;
 His studies chang'd, and tutor bid adieu,
 That honour'd name he comes to seek in you;
 To swear allegiance to your Muse and state,
 If you vouchsafe but to matriculate—
 And in the drama be his kind protectors,
 No pupil e'er will more attend your lectures;
 Whatever be your will, define and fix it,
 Your dread command shall be his *ipse dixit*—
 'Till in due time, these studious cares rewarding,
 You grant him his degrees in Covent-garden.—
 But in this first and perilous probation,
 Give to his fears a mild examination;
 For should the youth in this grand effort fail,
 Reflect what horrors will his soul assail;
 Unrob'd, unplum'd, expell'd the chearful town,
 Consign'd to penance in a fable gown,
 In dreary cloisters doom'd to pine and mourn,
 Hope's gilded cloud that never must return—
 Thro' life's remains this rash essay to blame,
 And rue the hour when fatal thirst of fame,
 From letter'd ease, and academic grove,
 Seduc'd his steps these shelvy paths to rove;
 In Shakspeare's car a giddy height to soar,
 Whence if he falls—he falls to rise no more!

L I N E S

On the death of Mrs. CARGILL, who, with her infant, was shipwrecked on the 26th of February, 1784, off Scilly.

M ELODIOUS fair one, let thy Muse who doats,
 And sighs at the remembrance of thy notes
 Mourn thy sad fortune, and thy infant's doom,
 Snatch'd thus untimely in its earliest bloom.

Sirens of yore seduc'd the list'ning crew,
 But such, my fair, the softness known to you,
 That Neptune, by your voice and beauty sway'd,
 Raised that dire storm which could not be allay'd,
 Ere its effects had given to his arms
 The full possession of my Clara's charms.
 The wanton God enforc'd this harsh decree;
 That as *arose one Venus* from the sea,
 Another should descend—and fix'd on thee.

FERDINAND.

ODE on the approach of SUMMER.

Written some months since.

L I G H T o'er the daisied ground
 The frolic heifers rove,
 And wilder colts in wanton circles play;
 Her pail with garlands bound
 Along the leafy grove
 The milkmaid bears in honour of the May.
 Now thither let me bend
 Where yon tall elms extend
 Across the verdant knowl their stately train;
 There feel a nobler pride
 Than those whom cities hide,
 A denizen of nature's free domain!
 Nor where the swallow's fav'rite lake
 Curls lightly to the rustling brake,
 Nor where yon orchard's tender bloom
 Invites the bee to steal perfume,
 My winding path refrain.

May no untimely showers
 The morning-lustre stain
 Till the full sun ascend his middle sky;
 Unless from ocean-bowers
 Young Zephyr's infant train
 On dewy wings diffuse the growing joy!
 He comes—the spreading rose
 With richer crimson glows,
 The violet tufts a fresher scent exhale;
 The lark exalts her note,
 The cuckow's mellow throat
 With deeper symphony divides the gale.
 While, gaining on the charmed ear,
 A voice to love and sorrow dear
 Proclaims what thickets intertwine,
 From noon's keen arrows to enshrine
 The Siren of the Vale.

Sweet Philomel! with thee
 Midst deepest shades inspir'd
 Oft will I muse some tender theme alone;
 Oft revel fancy free
 Whole summer-suns untir'd
 In native sweets to worldly state unknown.
 The forms of good and fair
 Thro' ocean, earth, and air,
 By Nature's energetic hand express'd,
 As in the eternal mind
 Their constant echo find
 In the pure mirror of a peaceful breast.
 Let glory crown the warrior's toil;
 Be wealth and power the statesman's spoil;
 Unenvied pomp possess a throne!
 The poet asks for health alone,
 And gives himself the rest.

Within this narrow grove,
 By circling hills immur'd,
 What objects harmonize the tuneful soul,
 Of that parental love
 Contented and assur'd
 Which first produc'd and yet sustains the whole!
 But, O my song! forbear,
 Thy present weakness spare,
 Let humble sense thy decent aims confine—
 Enough in nature's face
 His attribute to trace
 Whose wisdom form'd, whose bounty made it
 thine,
 That when to vernal scenes we fly,
 Or loose the reins of social joy,
 Or beauty's half relenting zone—
 Our hearts in full enjoyment own
 The Giver's hand Divine.

A DANISH ODE.

T H E great, the glorious deed is done!
 The foe is fled! the field is won!
 Prepare the feast; the heroes call;
 Let joy, let triumph fill the hall!

The raven flaps his fable wings;
 The bard his chosen timbrel brings;
 Six virgins round, a beauteous choir,
 Sing to the music of his lyre.

With mighty ale the goblet crown,
 With mighty ale your sorrows drown,
 To-day, to mirth and joy we yield;
 To-morrow, face the bloody field.

From

From danger's front, at battle's eve,
Sweet comes the banquet to the brave;
Joy shines with genial beam on all,
The joy that dwells in Odin's hall.

The song bursts living from the lyre,
Like dreams that guardian ghosts inspire;
When mimic shrieks the heroes hear,
And whirl the visionary spear.

Music's the med'cine of the mind;
The cloud of care give to the wind;
Be ev'ry brow with garlands bound,
And let the cup of joy go round.

The clouds come o'er the beam of light;
We're guests that tarry but a night:
In the dark house, together press'd,
The princes and the people rest.

Send round the shell, the feast prolong:
And send away the night in song;
Be blest below, as those above,
With Odin's and the friends they love.

ODE on seeing a statue of ACHILLES.

By Mr. BANKS.

THOU, who 'midst the tuneful quire
On Pindus, strike'st the sacred lyre,
Ah! why to sculpture, Phœbus, so unkind;
Say, when the Arts with sweetest smile
Were led to Britain's favour'd isle,
Why was the beauteous Sculpture left behind?

Amidst Palmyra's desert drear
The muse hath mark'd her lonely tear,
And o'er the falling grandeur heard her sigh;
And oft where Athens (now no more!)
With wonder, swell'd the world of yore,
Hath seen the slightest wand'rer's pensive eye.

Barbaric race! to slight the fair,
Who once the smiles of Gods could share;
That proud, with heroes, sages, prov'd her art!
Enamour'd of her magic hand,
They saw in Grecia's laurel'd land,
Their second selves amid the marble start.

But, lo! in simple vest array'd,
I see advance the Attic maid;
A Briton wooes her to his native shore;
Behold in Pelus' Godlike son,
Her glorious work of life begun.
That bids Britannia envy Greece no more.

THE AIR-BALLOON.

SHOULD the whim take to ride on air-stuff'd
pillions,
'Twill ruin all our coachmen and postillions;
Who, if men travel in these strange sky-rockets,
Will quickly feel the loss in empty pockets;
And most of them, I fear, must quite despair,
Like new philosophers, to live on air.

The scheme's not novel quite, for, by the bye,
I long have thought our gentry meant to fly;
Though hitherto content, instead of wings,
With four stout horses and four easy springs;
But now the case is alter'd, for depend on't,
If flying once comes up, there'll be an end on't.
Our grandfathers were pleas'd, poor tender souls!
"To waft a sigh from Indus to the poles:"
But our enlighten'd age a way discovers,
Instead of sighs, to waft substantial lovers:
Montgolfier's silk shall Cupid's wings supply,
And, swift as thought, convey them thro' the sky.
Nor will their travels be on earth confin'd,
They'll quickly leave this tardy globe behind;
Posting tow'ards Gretna-Green you've lately seen us;
The ton will soon be, to elope to Venus:
Hot-headed rivals now shall steer their cars
To fight their desperate duels snug in Mars:
While gentler Damons, in the rhyming fit,
Shall fly to little Mercury for wit.

"John, fill the large balloon (my lady cries)
I want to take an airing in the skies:"
Nimble she mounts her light machine, and in it
To Jupiter's convey'd in half a minute;
Views his broad belt, and steals a pattern from it,
Then stops to warm her fingers at a comet:
The concert of the spheres she now attends,
Hears half an overture, and then descends.
Trade too, as well as love and dissipation,
Shall profit by this airy navigation:
Herschel may now with telescopes provide us,
Just fresh imported from the Georgium Sidus.
Smart milleners shall crowd the air-balloon,
To bring new fashions weekly from the moon.
Gard'ners from Battersea in shoals shall run,
To raise their kindlier hot-beds in the sun;
And all our city fruit-shops, in a trice,
From Saturn daily be supply'd with ice.

Albion once more her drooping head shall rear,
And roll her thunders thro' each distant sphere;
While, led by future Rodneys, British tars
Shall pluck bright honours from the twinkling stars.
Nov. 20, 1784.

LITERARY REVIEW.

ARTICLE XC.

MEMOIRS of Ancient Chivalry: To which are added, the Anecdotes of the Times, from the Romance Writers and Historians of those Ages. Translated from the French of M. de St. Palaye, by the Translator of the Life of Petrarch. 8vo. 5s. Boards. Doddsley. 1784.

THE detail of national character and manners is so instructive and interesting, that it is much to be regretted that the historical records of ancient times afford so few particulars of

this kind. It is, therefore, a meritorious employment of literary industry to ransack the remains of former ages, in order to bring forth such facts as may serve to cast a light upon the histo-

ry of human nature. Those periods of past time are particularly worthy of attention in which the public manners, through the influence of some extraordinary cause, assume a singular aspect, and afford plentiful materials for the gratification of philosophical curiosity.

In this respect, no period in the history of the world is more interesting than that in which all Europe was seized with a religious phrenzy, and united in the romantic design of rescuing the Holy Land out of the hands of infidels. The military spirit which this enterprise spread through all nations was the foundation of many singular customs, and particularly of the ceremonies of chivalry.

The rise and progress of this institution, the habits which it introduced among individuals of both sexes, and the effects, both advantageous and mischievous, which it produced in society, are minutely described in this work. The manners of the period which furnishes the materials of these memoirs were so entirely different from those of the present times, that the relation of them is highly amusing. The following extracts from this entertaining work will, we promise ourselves, be acceptable to our readers.

The ceremonies which preceded and accompanied the conferring of the honour of knighthood are thus related:

"We will now proceed to the preliminary ceremonies which prepared the knight for the sacred sword of chivalry. Austere fasts; whole nights passed in prayers with a priest and godfather, in the churches or chapels; the sacraments of penance, confession, and of the eucharist received with the utmost devotion; bathings, which signified the purity of manners necessary in the state of chivalry; and white habits, in imitation of the neophytes, or new converts, as another symbol of the same purity (and this was a custom formerly used by the Kings and Queens of Great-Britain, on the evening of their coronation); a sincere acknowledgement of all the faults of his life; a serious attention to sermons, in which were explained the principal articles of

faith, and of Christian morals: all these duties of preparation were to be performed, in the most devout manner, by the young man, previous to his being armed.

"The pious custom of passing whole nights in prayer (which was called 'the vigil of arms') had been observed, from the remotest times, in judiciary duels, or duels of proof. Ademar de Chabannois speaks of a combat of this sort, in his Latin Chronicle.—'The victorious champion having received no wound, went on foot immediately, to return thanks to God at the tomb of St. Cebat, where he had watched the preceding night.'—And in the order of chivalry it is said—'When the good knight receives the naked sword, he kisses the cross as he receives it; by some, this is done at the holy sepulchre, for the love and honour of our Lord; by others, at the tomb of St. Catharine, or at other holy places of devotion. The young man then bathes; after which, clothed in white apparel, he is to watch all night in the church, and remain there in prayer till after the celebration of high mass. The communion being then received, the young man, with his hands joined, and held up towards heaven, to which also his eyes were solemnly directed, after the priest celebrating mass had passed the sword over his neck, and blessed it, went and knelt at the feet of the lord who was to arm him. The lord asked him, 'With what intent he desired to enter into that sacred order? and if his views tended only to the maintenance and the honour of religion and of knighthood?' The young man made a suitable reply; and the lord, after having received his oath, gave him the dubbing, or three strokes on the neck with the flat end of the sword, and girded on him the golden sword. This august scene passed sometimes in a hall, or in the court of a palace or a castle, or, in time of war, in the open field.'

"The desire of riches, of repose, and of being honoured, were esteemed not only insufficient, but unworthy motives in this sacred engagement. The squire who was vain-glorious, or a flatterer, was also excluded; for such

foment

foment those corruptions, which the knight is engaged to root out and destroy. Nor were any to be admitted into this order who were lame, or who had any other corporal defect or weakness, which should render him unqualified for the profession of arms, however rich, noble, or courageous he might otherwise be. The figure, air, and physiognomy were considered as of great import; and that strength of constitution that should enable the knight to exert himself with ardour for the maintenance of good order, wherever he was stationed, by a laborious attention to, and expertness in, all the works relative to war: he was also enjoined, on immediate notice from his prince, to be ready to go forth to punish or appease the discords of the people. Agreeably to this, Perceforest relates, that King Peleon, when he armed his sons and his nephews knights, spake thus to them: 'Whoever will enter into any sacred order, whether that of religion, of marriage, or of knighthood, ought first to purge his conscience, and cleanse his heart from every vice, and fill and adorn it with every virtue; and charge himself with the greatest care to accomplish every thing he is commanded to do in the profession he takes upon him: in one word, he must be without reproach.'

"When the Duke of Burgundy (says Monstrelet) held the feast of the Golden Fleece, the Duke of Alençon got a knight to assist at it in his place, being himself a prisoner, from a decree given against him; and though at this assembly there ought to have been no knights, or proxies for knights, but such as were without reproach, the Duke of Burgundy suffered it, because he believed the Duke of Alençon a man of honour, unjustly condemned, and to whose condemnation he had not given his consent. Several knights have merited this noble distinction, that they were without reproach; such as Du Guesclin, Barbasan, Louis de la Trimouille, Bayard, and the brave Chevalier d'Aumont, who died in 1595; to whom M. de Thou renders this glorious testimony: 'He was so high-

ly esteemed in the parties both of the King and of the league, that if it had been now a question to find a knight without reproach, as it was in the days of our forefathers, all the world would have cast their eyes on the brave and virtuous Aumont.'

"The ladies and young gentlewomen sometimes assisted at the arming of a knight. 'A knight going to the combat (says Don Flores, of Greece) was armed by a young lady, who with her delicate hands fastened and laced on his armour: you may guess how patiently he demeaned himself in receiving this signal favour from her in whom his life was wrapped up.'

"The manner of arming was, first to put on the spurs, then the coat of mail, the cuirass, the brasslets, and the gauntelets; and then the lord or knight gave the dubbing, and girded on the sword, in the manner above related: the last was the most honourable badge of chivalry, and a symbol of the labour the knight was to encounter. As the young Launcelot had been forgotten among the great number who received the sword from the hand of King Artus, the Queen bestowed one on him, and he then became a knight, and the champion of that princess. The lord or knight, on the girding on of the sword, pronounced these words, or some that were similar:—'In the name of God, of St. Michael, and St. George, I make thee knight;' to which were sometimes added, 'be brave, hardy, and loyal.' Saintre, going to combat against the infidels in Prussia, prayed the King of Bohemia to grant him knighthood in the name of God, our Lady, and my Lord of St. Denys. There was yet wanting, to complete the equipage of a knight, the helmet, the shield, and the lance; which they gave him: then they brought a horse, which he mounted often without the help of a stirrup. To shew off his new dignity and skill, he curveting round, darting his lance, and brandishing his glittering sword; soon after which he paraded, in the same equipage, in one of the public squares, that it might be known to all he was made a knight according to the order of chivalry.

chivalry: and to inspire him with a higher sense of the character he was about to sustain, and a dread of committing any evil that should sully and disgrace it, he was to make a circuit round the city, and shew himself to the people as their guardian and defender."

The interest which the ladies took in the public jousts and tournaments is thus described:

"The flourish of trumpets announced the arrival of the knights, who, superbly armed and equipped, followed by their squires, appeared on horseback, advancing with slow steps, and grave and majestic countenances. Sometimes the ladies and young gentlewomen led on their noble slaves to the ranks by chains, which were fastened on them, and which they unloosened only at the edge of the lists, just as they were on the point of rushing forth to the combat. The title of slave, or servant of the lady, was loudly proclaimed on entering into the tournament, in whatever phrase she directed, in the same manner as the vassal in war took the watch-word of the lord he served, the knight asking of her what the cry should be which he should cause to resound for her in the tournament. The knights also took the devices and colours of their ladies, as the vassals those of their sovereign lords. Sometimes these devices were enigmatical, and only understood by the persons for whose love they were so contrived as to be impenetrable to all others. The use of these devices of love gave rise to a fiction in the *Arresta Amorum*: 'A lover preparing to joust had on armour and dress he had contrived in a pleasant humour, on which he put the device of his lady, and her colours on his housings, lance, and horse: when about to depart, and going to the lady to receive her benediction, she feigned sickness, to excuse herself from seeing him. The court of love condemned the said lady to dress, invest, and arm the said amorous petitioner, the first time he should appear at the tournament, and lead his horse by the bridle the length of the lists, one turn, and

then deliver to him his lance, saying, Adieu, my friend, have a good heart—care for nothing—your welfare is prayed for.'

"The knights were often invited to repair to the tournaments, with their sisters or other relations, but above all, with their mistresses, or the ladies of their love; and the champions never failed to name these in their jousts, to encourage and animate each other. 'The laws afterwards (says the author of the life of Cervantes, prefixed to his *Don Quixote*) censured this as an abuse; but it was anciently thought that these badges of honour conferred by the ladies could not be obtained but by the noblest exploits; and they were considered by the wearers as assured pledges of victory, and a sacred bond to do nothing unworthy of the distinguished rank conferred by them. The desire of pleasing the fair sex was indeed the soul of these tournaments.

"In *Perceforest* there is a lamentation the prince makes to one of his confidants, 'That knights dwelling in the bosom of felicity, and fullness of peace, have abandoned jousts and tournaments, and all the glorious feats of chivalry:—like unto the nightingale (says he) who never ceased to sing with melody and transport in the service of his beloved, till she had shewn herself favourable to his prayers; so the knights, at the sight of beauty, softness, and the enchanting tenderness of virgin chastity, filled the universe with their valour, and echoed the praise of their mistresses, till they had disarmed the rigour of the ladies whom they thus served: and it was, no doubt (he adds) a just reward of their courage; but if the guerdon of their love had been longer retained in the secret armories of their ladies' hearts, chivalry would not so soon have expired.'—'Servants of love (says Eustache De-champs) look fervently up to the exalted seats of these angels of paradise, then shall you joust with valour, and be honoured and cherished."

The ingenious translator of this work (Mrs. Dobson) presents it to the public, as affording, in connection with

her translations of the Life of Petrarch, and of the History of the Troubadours, a comprehensive view of ancient customs and manners; and, in this light,

these volumes are certainly a valuable addition to our stock of English literature.

ART. XCI. *Elements of Mineralogy.* By Richard Kirwan, Esq. F. R. S. 8vo. 5s. Boards. Elmsly. 1784.

THE epochas of a science may justly be compared to the halting places on a road, where the weary traveller, taking a retrospect of the tract he has gone over, gathers fresh vigour to proceed in his toilsome journey; and those ingenious authors who collect all that has been done in a science, who methodize those discoveries, and lay them before the public in a comprehensive view, contribute essentially to the progress of knowledge, by marking those epochas, and thereby exciting a zeal for further pursuits. The work now before us, had it no other merit, would in this respect alone deserve ample commendation; but when we consider the numerous and valuable additions to the stock of mineralogical knowledge made by the author's own indefatigable labours, some of which are here communicated, for the first time, to the public, we must acknowledge that he is entitled to a more than common share of gratitude from the cultivators of natural knowledge.

This work may be considered as the third station in the mineralogical career. Omitting the knowledge of the ancients, which was but vague in this branch of natural history, we may consider Wallerius as the first who made an attempt towards a system of mineralogy. He classed the mineral productions according to their external appearances. Cronstedt, suspecting the sufficiency of external characters for discriminating with any certainty the multitude of objects that present themselves in this class of beings, thought it best to arrange them according to their internal properties discovered by chemical agents. And, notwithstanding the arguments and very meritorious labours of two patrons of Wallerius's classification, Werner (author of an excellent treatise, in German, on the external characters of fossils, a translation of which into English is much

wanted) and Romé de L'Isle (who has lately published a new and much enlarged edition of his *Cristallographia*) yet Bergman, in his *Sciagraphia*, still adhered to Cronstedt's method, as the most simple and accurate.

The author of these *Elements*, after pointing out, in a sensible and modest preface, the cause of our palpable inferiority, in mineralogy, to most of our neighbours, which he derives chiefly from the want of proper establishments for the cultivation of it as a science, enquires more particularly into the question, Whether the characters of minerals should be taken from their external appearances, or the internal constitution of them? "Every science (he says) must be founded on permanent principles; and the only principles of this sort that mineralogy affords are undoubtedly the relations of the bodies it considers with chemical agents. This will plainly appear, by examining each of the external characters in particular; namely, colour, transparency, or opacity, coherence, texture, shape, and specific gravity." Each of these are here particularly examined, and found incompetent, as *criteria*, for establishing generic differences.

Our author, nevertheless, is far from asserting that the consideration of mere external properties is entirely useless; he is rather inclined to admit them for ascertaining specific varieties, when the properties of the genus are already known by analysis. By some experience in this mode of viewing the objects, he thinks that the eye may gradually become acquainted with the physiognomy of fossils. But he still insists, that where a *new* substance occurs, or such an absolute certainty is required as constitutes the foundation of a science, the chemical tests must be recurred to, and are alone to be depended upon.

In this work, therefore, both the internal and external characters are called in to complete a classification. The outline, as must already appear, is of the synthetic order, and therefore not differing materially from those of Cronstedt and Bergman. All mineral productions are divided into, 1. Earths; 2. Salts; 3. Inflammable substances; and, 4. Metals.

Of pure or simple earths, our author admits only five sorts; viz. 1. The calcareous; 2. The ponderous, which he now calls barytes; 3. The magnesian, or muriatic; 4. The argillaceous, or earth of alum; and, 5. The siliceous. Having established the general characters of these several earths, he gives us a table of their affinities with each other, and with the calx of iron; a subject which had never yet been properly considered. He then proceeds to enumerate the combinations of these earths with the several saline, inflammable, and metallic principles with which they are frequently combined. In the arrangement of stones according to the five elementary earths, he calls *simple species* those which consist of a compound of only two ingredients; and the *compound species*, such as arise from the combination of two or more simple species. Treating of salts, he distinguishes them as usual into acids, alkalis, and neutral salts. The inflammable substances are, the fire damps or inflammable air, hepatic air, naphtha, petrol, Barbadoes tar, asphaltum, mineral tallow, jet, coal, peat, turf, amber, and sulphur. The seventeen well-known metallic substances we shall not enumerate, but shall only observe, what the author could not know when he published this book, that the siderites, which is here classed as a distinct ore, has of late been found not to be a peculiar semi-metal, but, more probably, a combination of iron with the phosphoric acid.

The species and varieties of the several metallic substances treated of in this part are very numerous, and scientifically arranged. The new semi-metals are particularly defined. The manner of extracting the regulus from each, both in the dry and moist way,

is described in a clear and satisfactory manner. The works of Scheele and Bergman are here quoted almost in every article.

At the end of the first part, relating to earths, we find, 1. A chapter on vegetable and animal earths, both which, by repeated experiments, are found to be reducible to some of the five above-mentioned elementary earths; 2. An appendix, on the nature of the diamond and plumbago, which seem to hold a middle place between earths and inflammable substances, and cannot therefore be classed with either; and, 3. A general examination or analysis of earths and stones, to which is added, a table of the comparative hardness and specific gravities of different species of stones; all which, we are satisfied, will prove of singular use to future mineralogists.

At the end of the fourth part, and of the work itself, the author has given us, in an appendix, some geological observations, chiefly relating to mountains, their antiquity, their origin, their height, and their structure; also, to volcanoes, petrification, the veins of metallic ores, and hot springs. Lastly, we find three tables, 1. Of the quantity of metal in a reguline state contained in 100 grains of different metallic calces; 2. Of the weight and colour of metallic and earthy precipitates; and, 3. Of the proportions of ingredients in earths and stones.

Before we close this article, we cannot omit mentioning, with due commendation, the extensive mineralogical and chemical erudition of the learned author, those of his materials which are not produced from his own stock being collected not only from the voluminous publications of most of the philosophical academies, but from a number of single treatises, chiefly German and Swedish, many of which are, perhaps, not yet known to any one in this country except himself.

We beg leave to add, that this work will be rendered much more useful by either a synoptical table, or an index of its contents.

ART. XCII. *Henrici Constantini Cras, J. U. D. et Illustri Amstelodamensium Athenæo Juris Professoris Disputatio, qua demonstratur nullum in Ethica Christiana præceptum esse, quo et singuli cives in commodis suis sequendis, et principes in republicâ secundum politices regulas administranda, impediuntur. Quæ Legati Stolpiani præmium reportavit*—*A Dissertation, in which is demonstrated, That nothing is inculcated in the Gospel System of Morality that impedes either private Citizens in the Pursuit of their temporal Interests, or Rulers, in governing the State according to the Maxims of sound Policy. By Henry Constantine Cras, LL. D. and Professor of Laws in the College of Amsterdam; to whom was adjudged the Prize appointed by the Stolpian Fund. 4to. Leyden.*

THE fund left by the will of Mr. Stolp, a citizen of Leyden, for Prize-Dissertations on subjects relative to Natural Religion, and Moral Philosophy, has produced for many years past a miscellaneous collection that is not unworthy of attention. We are indebted to the Stolpian fund for Professor Cras's Dissertation, which is sensible and judicious; his method is clear and perspicuous, his reasoning solid, and his sentiments are liberal; his Latinity is far from being exceptionable, and may be read with pleasure. If no great novelty of matter should occur to the reader, this must be attributed not to the author, but to the subject, which has so often been treated by very able authors, that it is difficult to strike out of the beaten track. The directors of this institution seem to complain that the several dissertations delivered to them have proceeded in a track different from what they had intended, and have not investigated the truths which they wished to ascertain. They appear, however, to have been written with a view conformable to that, which, from the terms wherein the subject is proposed, obviously seems to have been intended; but if the directors had any more remote object, they would have done well, either to have proposed the subject in a more particular manner, or to have added such an explanation as should have guided the writer into the very channel they wished him to pursue.

The learned Professor divides his dissertation into three parts. In the first, he shews that the general system of evangelical morality tends greatly to promote the happiness of individuals, the prosperity of the state, and the honour of a good government.

In the second, he explains and vindicates some precepts which have been misunderstood and misrepresented; and, in the third part, he demonstrates that those precepts of the Gospel to which objections have been made, as prejudicial to civil happiness, are, on the contrary, greatly conducive to the felicity of the private citizen, and to the welfare of the community.

As a specimen of his mode of arguing, we shall present our readers with the following extract from the latter part of the work:

"Because the enemies of Christianity are obliged to acknowledge that its sincere professors are humble, mild, pacific, observant of the laws, and obedient to the magistrates (1 Peter, ii. 11, 13, 17, 18.) they explain this into an assertion that Christians must be cowardly, pusillanimous, mean, abject, and servile; that, as it is indifferent to them whether they are slaves or freemen, whether they conquer or are conquered, they may easily be enslaved by any tyrant; and are wholly unfit for great martial actions, and for vigorously repelling an enemy. The former part of this accusation, that Christians tamely submit to the usurpation of any tyrant, is thus argued by Rousseau, in his Essay on the Social Contract. 'If there should unfortunately be a single ambitious hypocrite among them, a Catiline or a Cromwell, for instance, he may be certain of enslaving his pious countrymen with the utmost facility. Christian charity suffers them not easily to think ill of their neighbour. No sooner has he, by some stratagem, acquired the art of imposing upon them, and usurped a part of the public authority, than he is a man appointed to honour; it is the command of God that

he should be respected: he soon becomes one of the powers that are ordained; it is the command of God that he should be obeyed. Does the depositary of this power abuse it; he is the scourge with which God punishes his children. To depose the usurper would be violating the dictates of conscience; the public tranquility must be disturbed; violence must be used, blood must be shed; all this but ill agrees with the mildness of the Christian; and, after all, of what importance is it, whether, in this vale of misery, they be freemen or slaves. To go to heaven is all that is essential, and for the attainment of this end resignation is one of the best means. But I speak improperly, when I say a Christian republic; these two expressions destroy each other. Christianity preaches nothing except slavery and dependence: tyranny always derives advantage from a spirit so favourable to it. Real Christians are made to be slaves, they know it, and are but little concerned about it. This short life is of too little value for their attention.' In these words Rousseau draws not the real character of the true Christian, but paints an imaginary figure of a superstitious fanatic, such as can scarcely be found even among the unwarlike Anabaptists. Rousseau had certainly an incredible fertility of genius for fictions of every kind, and the most powerful eloquence in describing them. But though, in many respects, these faculties may be of excellent service, the philosopher should be cautious, lest his warmth and fertility of genius lead him into error, and make him embrace empty fiction, instead of solid truth. For what can be more unfair, than because the gospel obliges us to observe the laws, and to be obedient to the rulers and magistrates of the state, to infer that Christians deem it contrary to their religion to resist a tyrant, or fear to expel an unjust oppressor of liberty? Nay, it is those vices which are most foreign to the spirit of the gospel, vain glory, avarice, and ambition, that render men mean, abject, servile flatterers of authority, and that easily subdue and bow them beneath the yoke of a tyrant. Besides, if we attend to the

records of history, these fictions are not only not confirmed, but directly contradicted by the most authentic testimony. The limits of this dissertation will not permit me to adduce a number of instances, with which every part of history abounds. I cannot, however, forbear mentioning one, which occurs to me while writing, in which the greatness of soul that resolutely opposes the cruelty of a tyrant, is admirably tempered with the just respect due to a sovereign. When Charles IX. King of France, issued the cruel orders to massacre the Huguenots in every part of his kingdom, the governor of one of the provinces answered the King in these excellent words: 'Sire, I have imparted your Majesty's commands to the loyal inhabitants, and the troops of the garrison; I have found good citizens and brave soldiers; but not one executioner: therefore, both they and I most humbly intreat your Majesty to employ our arms and lives in things that are possible, however dangerous they may be; in these we will cheerfully sacrifice the last drop of our blood.' Mezeray's History of France, vol. III.

"Another charge, deduced from the gentleness of mind and humility commanded in the gospel is, that Christians are utterly disqualified for all martial glory. 'Does any foreign war happen (continues Rousseau) the citizens readily march to battle; none of them indulge even a thought of flight: they do their duty; but without any passion for victory, they know how to die better than how to conquer. But what avails it whether they conquer or are conquered? Does not Providence know better than they what is proper for them? Conceive then what advantages a fierce, impetuous, ardent enemy may derive from their stoicism! Oppose to them those generous nations who glow with a fervent love of glory, and of their country. Suppose your Christian republic engaged with those of Sparta and Rome, your pious Christians would be beaten, overwhelmed, destroyed, before they had time to recollect themselves; or they would owe their safety only to the contempt which their enemies would conceive for them.' The

nature of the argument has made me particular in quoting the words of Rousseau, in which it is plain there is much less of truth and reason, than of arrogance, rashness, and audacity, in drawing a fictitious character of a Christian, after the visions of his own luxuriant fancy. What can he mean by saying that Christians will fight resolutely, and yet that they are not influenced by any desire of victory? Rousseau always recurs to this opinion, that Christians, because they make heaven and their eternal salvation their chief care, have, therefore, little or no concern for the advantages of this life. Is it then of no importance, that Christians scorn a flight from battle, and that they magnanimously despise death? But it is obvious what poor feeble reasoners those must be, who blame the gentleness and mildness of

Christians. For in order to be good citizens, to be magnanimous, loyal, brave, and ardent lovers of our country, it is by no means necessary to be inhuman, cruel, unpitying, inflamed with the thirst of revenge, and inflated with empty pride and arrogance. A laudable veneration of antiquity, from which I wish not to detract, produces a partiality for the names and histories of Greek and Roman heroes; yet there are not wanting Christian heroes, whose unconquered fortitude and greatness of soul have deservedly excited in all the highest degree of admiration!"

Three Dissertations, which also contended for the prize, are subjoined to that of M. Cras, as worthy of publication. One of these is composed by Professor *Pap de Fagaras*, and we may say of the victor and this competitor, *et vitulâ tu dignus, et hic.*

ART. XCIII. *Försök till Järnets Historia, i. e. An Essay on the History of Iron.* By *Sueno Rinman*, Assessor in the Royal College of Mines, Director of the Forges, Knight of the Order of Vasa, Member of the Swedish Academy, &c. Stockholm. 4to. 1072 pages. Stockholm. 1782.

IN his preface the author tells us that iron, though the most common and useful of all metals, has hitherto been little examined by chymists, except with a view to medicine. Swedenburg, the Dictionary of Arts, and Mr. Jars, inform us how iron is reduced from its ores in various countries, and give us various processes for its improvement relative to the uses for which it is designed; but they are silent with regard to the reason why different methods of extraction are used, as well as to the preference due to some of them; neither are the properties of iron in its different states, nor the manner of improving it, or applying it to the various arts in which it is employed to the greatest advantage, either examined into or explained. Mr. Reaumur, in the year 1722, gave us a treatise on the art of converting malleable iron into steel, which was the first work of any importance on this subject. In 1773 Mr. Horn published, in England, *Essays concerning Iron and Steel*, which contain an examination of some processes of Reaumur, and of others at that time unknown in France, but their

contents are far from answering to their titles. Mr. Berret's Memoir on Steel, published at Paris, in 1779, contains the best and newest methods of adapting steel to the uses of different manufacturers.

In 1763, Dr. Lewis proposed to print a more ample treatise on metals; and in 1764 he actually did publish a work, under the title of *A History of Gold, and the various Arts depending thereon*, a continuation of which was long expected, but in vain. This induced Mr. Rinman to collect all the materials necessary to a full history of iron, on the same plan as that which had been followed by Dr. Lewis; and to this undertaking he was greatly encouraged by the Oeconomical Society of Sweden. He has avoided, as much as possible, repeating what has been said by others, but he gives a more ample account of his own discoveries and experiments, and also of those of his countrymen that are not generally known; and also of some successful processes hitherto kept secret: the whole written particularly for the use of manufacturers.

This

This work is comprised in ten treatises; the first is on the colour of iron likewise of its grain, both on the surface and in its fracture, and of the difference in this respect between cast iron, steel and bar, or malleable iron, with the manner of scouring, polishing, &c. And an account of the different powders, &c. used for those purposes. Lastly, of preservation from rust, of varnishes, of damasking, &c.

The 2d treats of the weight of iron and its ores; its elasticity; how procured, increased, &c.

The 3d relates to its magnetic power; how produced, destroyed, or increased. A number of new experiments are here related.

The 4th gives an account of the manner in which iron is affected by heat and cold; its dilatation, warping, change of colour, flaking, burning, loss of weight, magnetic power, calcination, reduction, the manner of softening it by various mixtures, also of stiffening it; with other particulars.

The 5th concerns the malleability of iron, whether red-short, cold-short, hard, soft, brittle, &c. their marks and properties. The improvement of faulty iron-ores; of the German, French, Corsican, and English methods: also those used in different parts of Sweden:

of producing or improving the malleability of iron.

The 6th enumerates the various alloys of iron with other metals, and their properties; of gilding, incrusting, &c. and the manner of separating iron from other metals.

The 7th exhibits at large the various colours which iron communicates to stones, earths, glass, porcelain, &c.

The 8th relates to the various solutions of iron, in air, water, acids, alkalis, its precipitates, and the mode of applying these to the purposes of engraving, &c.

The 9th treats of steel; its nature, characters, ores, and its fabrication from various sorts of iron, by fusion, or cementation, the manner of hardening or softening it, of steel, wires, &c.

The 10th discourses, at large, of the nature, properties, ores, and various other particulars concerning cast iron.

Short as the present account is of this important work, we would not, however, omit inserting it here, as it must point out the necessity of speedily procuring a good English translation of it. Our artists, in the several branches of iron manufactures will, we doubt not, find it their interest to give every possible encouragement to such an undertaking.

ART. XCIV. *Remarkable Prospects of the Alps and Icy Mountains in Switzerland; in a Series of Plates engraven with Colours, and accompanied with ample Descriptions of the Objects they represent. Published by Subscription, by Mr. Hentzy, Tutor to the Pages of his Serene Highness the Prince of Orange, and Agent to the Court of Saxe-Gotha. Paris, 1784. Large folio.*

THIS publication may be considered in two points of view: first, as a lively and well-executed representation of the most striking parts of the Alps and Icy Mountains in Switzerland; and, secondly, as a natural history of the singular district that contains in its bosom these stupendous objects, which are so worthy of the attention of an inquisitive traveller. It is certain, that in this latter respect there is no publication of the kind that can vie with the present work, of which we have some beautiful specimens before us.

This work was formerly announced by its first undertaker, the ingenious Mr. Wagner, citizen of Bern, in Swit-

zerland; and, at that time, several English Gentlemen encouraged it by their subscriptions. But the death of Mr. Wagner retarded its publication, though it was then finished, and ready for the press.

The Alps and the Icy Mountains of Switzerland exhibit, undoubtedly, a series of wonders, in which Nature displays her operations with peculiar majesty, and accumulates awful and grand scenes of grandeur and beauty. Mr. Wagner, a fond admirer of these singularities of his native country, undertook the laborious task of having these noble prospects drawn from Nature with the utmost accuracy, and faithfully

faithfully represented in their native colours. He accordingly made frequent, perilous, and, we may add, learned excursions through the Alpine regions, in company with a celebrated natural historian*, and an eminent landscape painter†; and these excursions have produced a series of beautiful and interesting pictures, accompanied each with a learned description, which will throw new light upon the topography, curiosities, and natural history of a country, now much frequented by English travellers.

The late celebrated Baron Haller, who perused the descriptions, and examined the drawings, that form the contents of this work, composed a preface, which will be prefixed to it: and the manner in which he speaks of it is the highest possible testimony that can be given to its merit. We have this preface now before us, and it is worthy of the great man who penned it. He expresses with ardour his zeal for the success of this noble work: he declares it superior to any thing of the kind that has yet appeared; "I dare answer (says he) for its favourable reception, and I am persuaded it will fulfil both the expectations and desires of the curious. Eight journeys that I have made along the northern ridge of the Alpine mountains have enabled me to judge of the accuracy and merit of the descriptions and drawings that are here offered to the public."

In the publication of this work by subscription, the editor has avoided every thing that might render his proposals disagreeable, or look like an imposition on the liberality of those who are generously disposed to contribute to the advancement of useful knowledge and the fine arts; for no part of the payment is required of the subscribers beforehand, as appears from the fifth article of the conditions, which are as follows:

1st. Thirty-six drawings (which will perhaps be increased to forty) are selected from the rich collection of Mr. Wagner, which will be sufficient to convey a clear and accurate idea of the

most curious views that are exhibited by the Alps.

2dly. Each number will contain six plates, engraven in colours after the original pictures or drawings. These engravings will be executed under the inspection of Mr. Vernet, by Mr. Janinet, an artist of the greatest merit. A sheet of printed text, of the same size with the plates (*i. e.* in large folio) will accompany each number, and contain a compendious summary description of the six plates which compose it.—These plates, separated from the text, may be glazed and framed as ornaments to a cabinet, or, bound with it, may add to the riches of a library.


3dly. A frontispiece, with the learned preface of Mr. Haller, as also a profile of the Alps, with the names of the peaks and mountains, will be given *gratis* to subscribers, who are to pay for each number (consisting of six plates) 36 livres (about 11. 15s.) a moderate price, if the expences of this undertaking are duly considered.

4thly. Only five hundred copies of the work will be printed, which the subscribers will receive, according to the date of their subscriptions.

5thly. Not only no payment is required beforehand, but every subscriber who shall think that the editor has not fulfilled his promises *shall be at liberty to efface his name* in the list of subscribers.

6thly and 7thly. Those who have not subscribed will be obliged to pay 45 livres, instead of 36, for each number.

8thly. Those who possess already the plates, engraven by Mr. Janinet, which Mr. Wagner had begun to deliver to subscribers before his death, need not purchase them a second time; they will make a part of the numbers to which they belong.

 The Review of Cook's Voyage will be continued in our next number; but we cannot any longer defer informing our readers that Mr. Colman suggested the happy motto which is placed on the reverse of the medal of our immortal circumnavigator,

* The Rev. Mr. Wytttenbach, of Bern.

† The ingenious Mr. Wolff.

navigator, which was engraved at the expence of the Royal Society:

NIL INTENTATUM NOSTRI LIQUERE.

The application of this passage from Horace is remarkably happy. The poet uses it in speaking of his brother poets, but in the present instance it wears an air of novelty, in being applied to the adventurous researches of Captain Cook.

This circumstance was communicated to us by a correspondent, after the description of the medal was published, in our September Magazine, page 176. In the same letter he informs us, that Mr. Colman, at the same time, proposed another motto: QUOUSQUE TANDEM. This is bolder, indeed, but we think that the Society shewed their judgement in choosing the former.

THE ENGLISH THEATRE. DRURY-LANE.

October 28.

A New comedy, called DECEPTION, was performed at this theatre.

DRAMATIS PERSONÆ.

Sir Henry Lofty	Mr. Bensley.
Mr. Lofty	Mr. Brevelton.
Lord Courtly	Mr. Aickin.
Mr. Salter	Mr. Parsons.
Mainlove	Mr. Dodd.
Wharton	Mr. Palmer.
Lady Betty Friendly	Miss Pope.
Miss Salter	Mrs. Wilson.
Clarissa	Miss Farren.

The piece opens with a negociation, on the part of the fathers, for a treaty of marriage between Sir H. Lofty's son and Mr. Salter's daughter. Sir Henry tells Salter it is necessary to consult his brother-in-law, Lord Courtly, to whom his son is heir apparent, and Lady Betty Friendly, a female relation, on whom also there is considerable dependence. Lord Courtly and Lady Betty having received intelligence that young Lofty is in love with Clarissa, supposed to be of mean birth, and taken into Sir Henry's family as a companion to the late Lady Lofty, they conclude it to be this match Sir Harry means to speak to them about, which they both approve; Lord Courtly nevertheless determines in the first instance to object to it. Lord Courtly and Lady Betty, being at length undeceived, are equally surpris'd, and his lordship acquaints Sir Henry Lofty of his son's real attachments; at this discovery Sir Henry is highly enraged, and Mr. Salter equally disappointed; he having a settled design to obtain Clarissa for his mistress, for which purpose Wharton, steward to Sir Henry, had been employed by Mr. Salter as his agent. Wharton, finding Lord Courtly approves of his nephew marrying Clarissa, forms the project of tricking old Salter out of his daughter.

It turns out, however, in the end, that Clarissa is the daughter of Sir H. Lofty; and young Lofty proves to be the son and heir of Lord Courtly; upon which all parties consent to their union. Salter, likewise, upon the recommendation of Lord Courtly, agrees to the marriage of Wharton with his daughter.

This play did not succeed. It was, indeed, a comedy of unmeaning *exits* and *entries*. The scenes were short, and followed each other in a rapid succession—but *brevity* seem'd their chief merit: in this the security of the piece depended more than on any other consideration. At the close of the fourth act, or rather at the beginning of the fifth, a dance composed of the servants was brought forward; and as the tune of *Roast Beef* is a favourite, a fine *surloin*, supported by the cook, *figured in* among the menial assembly. The manager bestowed the strength of the house to support this *dramatic DECEPTION*, but in vain.

Nov. 4. This evening was performed a musical farce called the SPANISH RIVALS; the dramatis personæ of which were,

Don Narcisso de Medicis	Mr. Parsons.
Don Gomez	Mr. Baddeley.
Fernández	Mr. Barrymore.
Peter	Mr. Dodd.
Basto	Mr. R. Palmer.
Lucetta	Mrs. Wrighten.
Roxella	Miss Phillips.

This musical drama is the production of a gentleman named *Lonsdale*; his youth, and a first attempt, have claim to indulgence. The piece was introduced by a prologue, spoken with great humour by Mr. Bannister, jun. The prologue is written by the author of the farce, and certainly possesses merit.

The fable lies within a narrow confine. Ferdinand assumes the dress and manners of his rival (Don Narcisso) in the first act, is detected; he endeavours again to pass for him, in the second; and as he previously binds him, and Peter, a Cumberland lad in his service, to a tree, he finds no difficulty in accomplishing his wish, to marry Roxella, who is daughter to Don Gomez. The fabric is slight; but yet there is a novelty in the character of the Cumberland lad that was acceptable.

The audience made exceptions against some of the incidents; but with respect to the music, it is worthy the composer, light, elegant, and cheerful. Mr. Linley's productions are well calculated for producing that *general effect* which ought always to be a principal consideration in every species of dramatic composition.

Oct. 25. SINCE the evening which gave the immortal Powell introduction to the town, no *theatrical adventurer* has appeared, with pretensions to merit equal to those which marked the *entree* of the *Romeo* of this night! This gentleman's name is Holman; he is of respectable family and polite education. He is of a middling stature; his figure is genteel; his countenance is animated and expressive; his features are rather sharp; his eye extremely quick and lively; and his voice possesses a richness of tones, but yet requires some regulation to retain a fullness while he is speaking: yet, whenever he makes transitions, it appears in perfect tune, and agreeable to nature. In regard to his deportment, it admits of improvement. He did not preserve himself so erect as he might have done, and thereby diminished from the dignity he might otherwise have preserved.

He played every scene with spirit and nature; but his interview with Friar Laurence, in the third act, and the tomb scene, were distinguished by peculiar beauty. Those situations possess most *passion*; and whenever that is the case he must excel. Mr. Holman was introduced by an address of considerable merit, written by Mr. Barvis, a gentleman of one of the Universities.

The tragedy was dressed in the Italian habit of the fifteenth century, which somewhat approaches the Spanish mode of dress.

Oct. 29 Was represented at this theatre, for the first time, a new farce, called *AEROSTATION, or the TEMPLAR'S STRATAGEM*. The characters of which are as follow:

Quarto	Mr. Quick.
Scrip	Mr. Wilson.
Mineall	Mr. Bonnar,
Mr. ———, nephew to Quarto	Mr. Davies.
Dawson	Mr. Wewitzer.
Mrs. Grampus	Mrs. Webb.
Sophia	Miss Rance.
Melissa	Mrs. Morton.

The above farce is the production of Mr. Pilon, author of many pieces which have met with public approbation. This last performance has infinitely the superiority over his other farces. The dialogue is spirited, and replete with points of strong humour, and temporary fallies. Some of the scenes possess great comic strength; and most of the incidents are highly laughable. The interview in the first act between Mineall, Quarto, and Quarto's nephew; and the *solus* scene of Scrip, when he ruminates on his air-balloon project, together with the opening of the second act, where Quarto is on the point of ascending in the balloon, and the *duel* scene, possess great merit.

One recommendation to this farce is, its not being encumbered with insipid scenes of courtship; it produces one union, but that is effected without the formality of a meeting of the parties before the audience.

The farce was prefaced by a prologue, which contained some humorous allusions to several popular topics. This piece was well received, and given out with great approbation.

Nov. 10. Mr. O'Keeffe's comic opera of *FONTAINEBLEAU*, was represented for the first time. The characters are as follow:

Lord Winlove
Sir John Bull
Colonel Epaulette
Sir Shenkin ap Griffin
Henry
Lackland
Lepoche
Drunken Butler
French inn-keeper
Robin
Jockey
Postboy
First Waiter
Second Waiter
Lady Bull
Rosa
Celia
Miss Bull
Mrs. Casey,
Nanette

Mr. Davies.
Mr. Wilson.
Mr. Wewitzer.
Mr. Edwin.
Mr. Johnstone.
Mr. Lewis.
Mr. Quick.
Mr. Egan.
Mr. Gaudrey.
Mr. Darley.
Mr. Kennedy.
Mr. Jones.
Mr. Helme.
Mr. Thompson.
Mrs. Webb.
Mrs. Bannister.
Miss Wheeler.
Mrs. T. Kennedy.
Mrs. Kennedy.
Mrs. Martyr.

Servants, Porters, &c.

SCENE, Fontainebleau.

The fable is as follows: Henry Seymour, a young English officer, anxious for the honour of his family, pursues Lord Winlove, who has prevailed on his sister Rosa to elope, and overtakes them at Rochester; and after a rencontre, in which he leaves Lord Winlove for dead, conveys his sister over to France, and lodges her in the convent at Villenceive, near Fontainebleau. Lord Winlove recovering, follows his mistress, and prevails on her to escape from the convent, which she effects in boy's clothes, and comes to Fontainebleau, where her brother is just returned from Paris, in hopes of meeting a young lady that he had seen at the opera, and is recognized by Lackland, an old college acquaintance, who having spent a considerable fortune in a course of fashionable dissipation, is reduced to great poverty, but retains his native ease and gaiety, and even an insolent hauteur: Lackland recommends Lepoche's house to Henry, where he meets with his sister, who waits there for Lord Winlove, and she, fearful of a second meeting between him and her lover, consents to return to the convent, but Henry, seeing his incognita, commits his sister to the care of Lepoche, who takes her home to his house, with an intention, if she proves coy to his impertinent passion, to deliver her to the lady abbess. Henry follows his fair Celia, and prevails on her to marry him, if he can procure the consent of her brother, Sir Shenkin ap Griffin, a Welch gentleman of the turf, who consents to their union, on condition that Henry joins him in a scheme of jockeyship, for the next day's running. Lackland prevails on Sir Shenkin to introduce him to Col. Epaulette, a French gentleman of fortune, so fond of every thing English, that Lackland cajoles him out of a suit of clothes, by which he wins the heart of Miss Dolly Bull, daughter to Sir John Bull, who is afterwards reconciled to him, on his refusing a commission in the French service. — Henry having Sir Shenkin in his power, from his supposed trick of jockeyship, obtains his sister; and the opera concludes with an invitation from Sir John Bull to the British Lion, where French claret receives the zest of English hospitality.

AEROSTATICS.

ANECDOTES OF MR. BLANCHARD.

MR. JEAN PIERRE BLANCHARD is said to be a native of Andley, a village in Normandy, and had rendered himself much known in France, long before the discovery of aerostation, by inventing a machine for flying. It seems he tried his project at Paris, which did not succeed, as he could not raise himself to any considerable height; but although he failed in this attempt, it did not discourage him, for we find he made a second experiment, by sending off a criminal in the machine, from the top of the church of Notre Dame, at Paris. The criminal, who had been condemned for robbery, was informed he should be pardoned if he would venture himself in it: he consented; the day was fixed, and the event proving successful, he was liberated. Spurred on by this little advantage, Mr. Blanchard again exerted his abilities, and soon after, during the late war, formed a flying boat, which he intended for carrying the dispatches from Brest to Paris, but as this did not answer his expectations, he was obliged to give up his design, and relinquish the idea of elevating himself above the clouds. Not long after this the invention of aerostation arose, and Mr. Blanchard could not let pass so favourable an opportunity for his former pursuits, and when

Messrs. Charles and Robert ascended from the Thuilleries, he formed a balloon with wings or oars of his own invention, and on the 2d of last March arose to the altitude of 1500 fathoms, steering his course amidst the solitary paths of air, an height that no mortal ever before attained, in his boat, from the *Champ de Mars*, near Paris, amidst an incredible number of people. An accident happened, which had like to have proved fatal to this expedition; a young gentleman of consequence of the *Ecole-Royale-Militaire*, at Paris, insisted on ascending with Mr. Blanchard, and, on his refusal, drew his sword, and cut the balloon in several places, but it was soon mended, and the gentleman taken into custody. The success of this expedition answered his wishes, and being determined to go onward in his career, he again ascended, in the month of May, at Rouen, in hopes that he should be able to find a method to direct the balloon at will; this likewise proving satisfactory, he resolved on a third, in July, the result of which, with the whole account of his journey, observations, &c. have all been published in the *London Magazine*. On the 20th of July, on his arrival at Rouen from the third voyage, he was crowned at the public theatre.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM OXFORD, NOV. 13.

“YESTERDAY Mr. Sadler, of this city, very amply fulfilled his engagements with the public, by ascending in his air-balloon from the Physic Garden, in the presence of a surprising concourse of people of all ranks; the roads, streets, fields, trees, buildings, and towers of the parts adjacent being crowded beyond description. The apparatus occupied the center of the garden, which, besides the balloon, consisted of a large vessel constructed for the purpose, with a number of lesser ones properly fixed, filled with materials for exciting the inflammable gaz, which was conducted to the machine by several large tin tubes. A few minutes before one o'clock (the balloon having been completely filled within the compass of two hours) Mr. Sadler stepped into the car, suspended from the machine by a net-work, and constructed in the form of a boat, when the fastenings being immediately loosed, a most beautiful balloon ascended with such wonderful velocity, that in three minutes Mr. Sadler was enveloped in the clouds, and for a few minutes totally disappeared; yet became visible at three or four several times, the machine still pressing upwards into the atmosphere, but at the same time moving with great rapidity before the wind, which blew pretty fresh from the south west. And on this side of Aylesbury, an aperture made in the balloon almost as soon as it was launched had unfortunately exhausted so much of the inflammable air, as to prevent our traveller from pursuing his aerial journey to the distance intended. Nevertheless, it may be proper to observe, that our English adventurer is

the first person who has been his own architect, engineer, chemist, and projector; that he exhibited a wonderful share of genius, intrepidity, and cool resolution; and that he justly merits the patronage and liberality of a generous public.

“In his passage, Mr. Sadler crossed Otmoor, Thame, and divers other places, the different currents frequently changing the direction of the machine, notwithstanding which he was not more than seventeen minutes in the passage; but found it necessary to divert himself of his whole apparatus, and therefore had thrown out all his ballast, provisions, and instruments of every kind; and, upon descending near Sir William Lee's, at Hartwell, near Aylesbury, about forty miles from Oxford, had the misfortune to be entangled in a tree, afterwards swept the ground, and again rebounded to a considerable distance, till at length he cast anchor upon a hedge, and landed safe upon *terra firma*, though the balloon was totally demolished.

“Mr. Sadler got back to Thame about four o'clock, where, having taken a little refreshment, and received the congratulations of the inhabitants, he set out from thence, and arrived at Oxford last night at seven; when the populace seized the chaise at the entrance of the town; took off the horses, dragged the carriage through several of the principal streets of this city, and were not content till they had compelled the inhabitants to illuminate their houses.

“We learn that Mr. Sadler found himself exceedingly wet in passing through the heavy cloud he met with in his ascent, which also floated the bottom of his car.”

The Arrest of Major-General SIR JOHN BURGOYNE in the East-Indies is an Event long since well known. The following Letters explain some of the principal circumstances relative to that affair.

Fort St. George, Dec. 31, 1783.

G. O. By GOVERNMENT.

THE Right Hon. the President and Select Committee are pleased to direct that the following extracts from their proceedings be published in general orders:

Extracts from the minutes of the Select Committee, dated the 31st of Dec. 1783.

READ a letter from Col. Turner Straubensee, commanding at Poonamallee, dated the 27th of December. Also the answer to it, both entered on minutes of the 28th curt.

Read also another letter from Col. Straubensee, commanding at Poonamallee, and its enclosure, being one to him from Major-General Sir J. Burgoyne, ordering him and two captains of the 52d regiment to sit as members of a general court-martial, on Friday next. The committee having seriously taken into consideration the conduct of Major-General Sir J. B—— on this occasion, and also upon others, look upon it, that they are bound in duty to the state, and to the Company, to prevent, by every authority vested in them, as the supreme power of this presidency, the mischiefs and fatal consequences that would follow, if Sir J. B—— was not immediately disqualified from a repetition of it; they have resolved, and it is resolved to be necessary for the service, that Major-General Sir John Burgoyne, Bart. be put under arrest, without delay, and that the following general orders be issued:

G. O. The Right Hon. the President and Select Committee having thought it necessary for the public service to order Major-General Sir J. Burgoyne, Bart. into arrest, Major-General Campbell, the senior officer in his Majesty's service who is now employed on this coast, consequently takes the command of the King's forces.

The secretary having been directed to prepare a proper draft of a letter to Sir John Burgoyne, informing him of the sentiments and resolution of the committee, it is now read as follows:

To Major-General Sir J. BURGOYNE, Bart.

"SIR,

"I Am directed by the Hon. the President and Select Committee to inform you, that whatever conjectures and suppositions may be formed, they can have no influence whatsoever on their conduct, which will ever be guided by moderation, consistency, and the public good.

"The whole tenour of your proceedings since their general order of the 17th of September last had appeared to them so extraordinary, that they did not think it prudent after that time to give their sanction to any military authority which you might think fit to assume. As long as it did no real mischief, and the public service was not materially impeded, they declined taking notice of it, but now, Sir, it becomes absolutely unavoidable. It is their duty to provide for the safety of the common weal, and to prevent it from suffering any detriment; they, therefore, cannot permit that you should assume and exer-

cise a power of calling away at your pleasure, without the consent of government, such officers as have been specially intrusted by it with commands.

"If the shadow of such authority in you, or any other officer, were allowed, the Company would be deprived of the benefit of his Majesty's troops, which were sent out here for their service, at an immense expence, and might suffer the most serious injury where essential assistance was expected.

"Under these impressions, Sir, the peremptory repetition of your orders to Col. Straubensee, to whom this government had confided the charge of the fort and garrison of Poonamallee, to attend upon other duty, as signified in your letter to him of the 29th curt. although you were acquainted with the Committee's instructions to him, is considered by them to be such a violation of public duty, such a perversion of all system, good order, and authority, as, if not immediately obviated, would create infinite anarchy in the service, and prove of fatal consequence to the British empire in India.

"It is necessary for the committee to call to your mind the other parts of your conduct, particularly on the 19th of September last, when you left the army in the night, without leave.

"On very maturely considering every circumstance before them, they find themselves obliged to order you into arrest, and have directed me to give you this particular information of it.

"From the whole of their deportment to you, Sir, you cannot but observe, that it is not without great reluctance they now perform this part of their duty.

"When, on the 20th of September, after your quitting the army without leave, as above-mentioned, you wrote to the governor that you were ready to surrender yourself, the answer was conceived in the spirit of the utmost moderation, and assured you that there was not any intention of calling upon you to give an account of your conduct here, or to lay any restraint upon your person, unless some future act committed by you should force them to adopt a measure which would be so painful to them.

"I am directed by the Committee to assure you, Sir, that by the measure you have now forced them to adopt, it is not meant that you should suffer any present inconveniency or personal hardship.

"By order of the Hon. the President and Select Committee,

(Signed) "W. GEO. WASEY,
"Acting Secretary."

Ordered, That the above draft be immediately copied fair, and sent to Major-General Sir J. Burgoyne.

Sir John Burgoyne obeyed the arrest, and in a few days set out for Pondicherry, to amuse himself.

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Copy of a letter from Major-General Sir John Burgoyne, Bart. to the President and Select Committee of Fort St. George, in the East-Indies.

January 1, 1784.

"My Lord and Gentlemen,

"I Last night received your letter of yesterday's date, together with the extracts of government's orders, which were delivered to me by Lieutenant-Colonel Malcolm, adjutant-general to the Company's forces: by these I find you have thought proper to put me into a military arrest, for having, in the first place, summoned Col. Straubenzee, and two captains of the 52d regiment of foot, at Poonamallee, to attend a general court-martial on Friday next, although I knew they had the Select Committee's orders to remain in that fort. And, in the second place, for having quitted the army in the night of the 19th of September last, without leave.

"I, therefore, now think it incumbent on me thus publicly to inform you, my Lord and Gentlemen, that I formally protest against this proceeding. First, Because, by the articles of war, I can find no powers whatever vested in you, that can authorise your assumption of such military powers in regard to any of his Majesty's officers, especially his commander in chief. And, secondly, Because you are not enabled to bring me to a general court-martial, which, by the laws of the land, I have a right to in eight days after my being first arrested. Having, therefore, submitted, it is necessary for me to inform you, that by having done so, I by no means acknowledge your power: but the recent example, wherein Major-General Stuart was insulted in his own house by an armed force, sufficiently proves to me that resistance, if I had made any, would have been vain. I shall now not enter into any justification of my conduct whatever, but pray you to recollect, that in my letter of the 30th ult. I offered to withhold my powers as commander in chief of his Majesty's troops in summoning a general court-martial, provided the government of this country ordered me so to do. The pretext of ordering Col. Straubenzee, and the captains of the 52d regiment, to remain in the fort of Poonamallee, as necessary for the state and the common-weal, and not attend the court-martial, when only the day before Col. Straubenzee had returned from Madras, where he had been suffered to remain for a week, and all his officers to go indiscriminately backwards and forwards, is a pretext I should have thought too poor, too pitiful, and too ridiculous even for the Select Committee of Fort St. George to adopt.

"Common sense must detect such imposition, and the present situation of public affairs must prove the order not necessary; besides, you will please to observe, that though in my letter of the 29th ult. I still ordered Col. Straubenzee, and the captains of the 52d regiment, to sit on the court-martial, I did not summon them out of

the fort, as the orders sent to the different regiments will prove; for in them the members were informed the place of meeting would be inserted in Thursday's orders, and probably was designed to sit at Poonamallee; indeed, your lordship having refused for the court to sit in Fort St. George proves the necessity of its meeting elsewhere.

"On this head, therefore, I believe you will hardly be able to prove any disobedience in me to your orders.

"You are pleased to tell me, in your letter, that you have constantly been guided by principles of moderation and consistency; with those of consistency you most certainly have, for is there hardly one person, whose misfortune it has been to have any transactions with you since the Right Hon. the President's arrival, who has not had reason to curse the hour his ill stars doomed him to have any connexions with his lordship? His Highness the Nabob, the Supreme Board, the late gallant and much revered commander in chief Sir Eyre Coote, Sir Edward Hughes, General Stuart, myself, and many others, both in public and private stations, are proofs undeniable of your consistency in one uniform and general plan of tyranny and oppression. Of moderation I am sorry it is not in my power to quote more instances than of that in the case of M. G. Stuart, your late commander in chief, an old soldier, who had lost a limb in your service, whom, after having vilified in a letter so indecent, that Mons. de Bussy, into whose hands a copy of it fell, could not help (though an enemy in arms at that time to Gen. Stuart) expressing his indignation at the insult offered to the whole profession of honour and arms, him (I say) you ordered home in a vessel, generally thought by every body so unfit for the long voyage, that the general himself, after he was on board, wrote me a letter, to say it must be a miracle that could preserve his life, even if the ship arrived safe, the accommodations were so bad, and so unfit for a person in his helpless situation. You are likewise pleased to say, that from the whole of your deportment to me I cannot but observe that it is not without reluctance you perform this part of your duty. I do verily believe it is; but I must attribute that reluctance to a very different motive from that you would wish to insinuate it to be.

"The time must come, and you know it, when ample justice must be done me; and when, divested of the plumes of government, you must answer for your conduct, and the injuries done me. I shall only now observe, that the words with which you conclude, viz. 'That you do not mean I should suffer any present hardships during my arrest,' are too indefinite and vague for me to profit by them. I, therefore, beg to know the condition of my arrest, to which having submitted I shall scrupulously adhere.

"I am, &c.

"J. BURGOYNE."

The following are Copies of Letters that have recently passed between the Minister and Lord G. Gordon.

"S I R,

"SEVERAL hundred seamen have addressed me to-day; many of them, lately arrived from India, came in coaches. Acting lieute-

nants, mates, and midshipmen of the royal navy are among them. The following is the copy of the generality of their addresses:

* To the Right Hon. Lord George Gordon, President of the Protestant Association.

* May it please your Lordship,

* WE, the seamen, whose names are under-written, are able, willing, and ready to serve the United Protestant States of Holland against the King of the Romans, and all their Popish enemies. And your petitioners will ever pray for Lord George Gordon.

* Signed by Edward Robinson, and 34 other seamen, at the Kettle-drum, Ratcliff Highway, Nov. 17, 1784.

"Several officers of distinction in the land service have also applied to me, and offered their services to the States-General, particularly a field-officer of the Connecticut line, in the province of Massachusetts, and an officer who has lately left the Irish Brigade of France, who wished to enter into a service more agreeable and congenial to his sentiments and principles. Many of the Guards have requested to go volunteers. Some Athol Highlanders are on their way to town, who, I make no doubt, will engage in the good Protestant cause of their High Mightinesses. I acquaint you, as prime minister, with these matters, that you may convince Baron Van Lynden of the general good disposition of the people of these kingdoms to comply with his Excellency's request, and to renew again their old friendship with Holland, upon the righteous and solid foundation of the Protestant interest.

"I am, Sir, with all due respect,

"Your humble servant,

"G. GORDON."

Welbeck-street, Nov. 17, 1784.

Downing-street, Nov. 19, 1784,
26m. past one P. M.

"My LORD,

"I have hitherto returned no answer to the letters I received from your lordship on the 17th and 18th instant, because I did not think it my

duty to enter into a correspondence with your lordship on the subject. But having been informed that many seamen have been induced to quit their occupation, in the expectation of being employed to serve against the Emperor, I think it proper to remind you, that whatever steps you have taken have been without the smallest degree of authority or countenance from his Majesty's ministers, and that it is for your lordship to consider what consequences may be expected from them.

"I am, my Lord,

"Your lordship's obedient

"Humble servant,

"W. PITT."

Right Hon. Lord G. Gordon.

Lord GEORGE GORDON's Answer.

"SIR,

"I received your letter of to-day just now. It was very rude in you not to answer my two letters sooner. I am glad to hear you say, that *many seamen have been induced to quit their occupation, in expectation of being employed to serve against the Emperor*. This shews the seamen's hearts are warm towards the States of Holland, and that they wish to lend them a hand to assist them against their enemies. As soon as you and the rest of his Majesty's ministers are pleased to authorize and countenance these honest endeavours of the seamen to support those Protestant States, I will make proposals to the Dutch ambassador, and to the States of Holland, to take them into immediate pay. The consequences may fall on the heads of the King's servants, if they advise their sovereign to take a part against the Protestant interest.

"I am, Sir,

"Your humble servant,

"G. GORDON."

Welbeck-street. Nov. 19, 1784.

THE MONTHLY CHRONOLOGY.

SUNDAY, OCT. 23.

THIS morning, between twelve and one o'clock, John Fell, one of the watchmen on Black-Friars-Bridge was inhumanly beaten with his own staff by some persons coming through the turnpike in a hackney-coach, because he attempted to stop them for not paying the toll. He was carried to his house at Newington, where he died in a few hours. On the inquisition taken before the coroner, the following account was given:—That the two gentlemen who were principals in the affair had spent their evening at the Circus Coffee-House, in St. George's Fields, in company with a friend, where they drank very freely; and on going home they ordered a coach, which coming to the door, two of them jumped in, and the third hastily mounted the box, and insisted on driving them: the coachman remonstrated, but without effect, and they drove on, leaving him to follow them. He ran after the coach, and got up behind. On coming to the toll-house the coach was driven through the gate without discharging the toll; on which the coachman got down and paid it. An

outcry had been raised by the toll-men at the gate, that the coachman had not paid the toll, and the watchman, who was stationed half way over the bridge, on its approach endeavoured to stop it, upon which the gentlemen got out, and some angry words passed on each side, when the watchman told them "they could not be gentlemen, to endeavour to bilk the bridge of the toll;" upon which a scuffle ensued, and one of the gentlemen (which it does not appear) forcibly took the watchman's staff from him, and gave him the fatal blow on the head which put an end to his existence. They then drove on, not apprehending the fatal consequences, and arrived in Red-Lion-street, Wapping, the place of residence of the two principals, where they were set down; but a trifling dispute arose between them and the coachman, who, it was thought, insisted on more than his fare. The next day they were alarmed with the news of the watchman's being dead, and, for fear of the consequences, it became necessary to secrete themselves, until the coroner's inquest could be summoned, who on the Wednesday following, after an examination which lasted

lasted from ten in the morning till eight at night, brought in a verdict of wilful murder, on which the parties absconded. They are men of reputation in business, and have left families to lament the consequences of this dreadful act of inebriety.

FRIDAY, 29.

The valuable collections and library of the late celebrated Linnæus was landed at the Custom-House, having been purchased by a private gentleman in this country.

Same night an extraordinary instance of murder and suicide happened at Aberystwith. Mr. Thomas Williams, an agent at that port for receiving and shipping ore from the lead mines, and who lived by himself in apartments, consisting only of a kitchen and bed-chamber, adjoining to the warehouse where the ore is lodged, on Saturday morning not rising to his business as usual, and returning no answer to loud and repeated knockings at his door, it was at length forced open, when he was found lying upon the floor in the kitchen, dead, and quite cold, without any wound or external mark of violence. He was undressed, and a blanket thrown loosely about him. The door of his other room was shut, but upon its being opened, to which some resistance was made from within, a woman was discovered, who proved to be one Mary Jones, with whom the deceased was known to have cohabited, and to have admitted her frequently to him at night. She was immediately questioned about the melancholy scene in the other room, but refused to answer, and seemed herself to be very ill. It was observed also that she had two very deep cuts on her left arm, but which had not divided the artery or vein. She was secured, and in the enquiry which was held immediately, a gentleman of the faculty attending, the following circumstances came out. Upon viewing the body, appearances were such, as to leave no doubt but that his death had ensued from the effects of a violent dose of poison, and that the poison was yellow arsenick, no small quantity of it being found upon the floor, which had been discharged from the stomach of the unfortunate deceased, and there was also an evident mark in the kitchen window, where some of it had been pulverized; and afterwards, on further searching, a large lump of it was found dropped behind a chest, and exactly similar to some which, by this time, it was discovered the woman had bought at a shop in the town the preceding evening, under pretence of killing rats. Circumstances being thus strong, she was now closely interrogated about the fatal affair, but her illness increasing very fast, and with plain symptoms, too, that she had also taken the same baneful drug, all that she could be brought to say was, that she came to Mr. Williams about eight o'clock; that soon after she came he was taken ill; that he got out of bed, took a blanket with him, and went into the other room; that she followed him, and sat on the floor by him, supporting his head, till twelve o'clock, when he died; that he refused to let her call for help, saying he should soon be better. Nothing more could be got from her, except her confessing that she had taken something herself as soon as Mr. Williams died, and that she had given herself the wounds in her arm. And though she was certainly in great pain, she

was very resolute, quite collected, and so guarded in the answers she made, as to let no expression drop which could tend to an acknowledgment that she had administered the poison to Mr. Williams, or even knew that he took it. Antidotes were forced down her throat, but in vain, for about three o'clock in the afternoon she expired. The cause of this desperate act, it is supposed, was jealousy.

FRIDAY, Nov. 5,

This night, as some boys were making a bonfire in Bedford-street, a barber's apprentice fired off a pistol, which being loaded with gravel stones, shot a youth dead on the spot, who happened unfortunately to be a partaker in the boyish caprice of the evening. Same night a constable, endeavouring to extinguish a bonfire in Clare-Market, received a violent blow on the head, which killed him on the spot. In this metropolis the anniversary of the Gunpowder Treason seldom fails to be commemorated by some tragical accident.

MONDAY, 8.

Mr. Erskine moved the Court of King's-Bench for a rule to show cause why a new tryal should not be granted in the cause tried at Wrexham, in Wales, last assizes, between the King and the Dean of St. Asaph, on an indictment for a libel; when, after an argument by Mr. Erskine, which lasted near three hours, and a warm altercation between Mr. Justice Buller and Mr. Erskine concerning the proceedings at Wrexham, the rule was granted, and Monday next appointed to hear cause.

TUESDAY, 9.

This day the old Lord-Mayor, accompanied by the new Lord-Mayor, the court of Aldermen, city companies, &c. went in procession from Guildhall to the Three Cranes Stairs, at the bottom of Queen-street, where they took water at about half past one o'clock, and proceeded to Westminster-Hall. The usual formalities being there gone through, their lordships returned again in their barges, and landing at Black-Friars-Bridge, went from thence in cavalcade to Guildhall, where a most elegant dinner was provided for their entertainment, and the evening concluded with a ball.

THURSDAY, 11.

The session of jail delivery for the High Court of Admiralty was held at the Old Bailey. Samuel Harris and John North, late belonging to the Juliet Lugger, were capitally convicted for the wilful murder of John M'Nier on the high seas. The circumstances of the murder were as follows—On the 30th of April last, at night, it being moonlight, a vessel, which afterwards proved to be the said lugger, laden with 400 tubs of Geneva, was deseried standing in towards Deal, on which Lieut. Bray, commander of the Nimble cutter, in the service of the Customs, manned three boats, in order to speak to her, and coming within hail, signified his business, but was answered with imprecations, and a volley of shot, one of which entered the right breast of the deceased, who immediately fell and expired. Lieut. Bray proceeded to board the cutter, and all the crew except Harris and North fell in the conflict.

A bill of indictment was found against Daniel Monro, Gent, for the wilful murder of Archibald

Bald Maclean, Esq. on board the Hero merchant ship, in her passage from Jamaica to England, on the 6th of August last, upon the high seas, about ten leagues from the island of Cuba, in the West-Indies, by giving him a mortal wound, of the breadth of half an inch, and of the depth of about four inches, with a small sword, which broke in the body of the deceased, and in consequence of which he instantly died.

SATURDAY, 13

The East-India Company dispatched a deputation to Ostend for the purchase of the whole teas imported thither by the Ostend Company. The purchase has been since concluded, and persons sent over to superintend the shipping of the teas.

MONDAY, 15

The case of the Dean of St. Asaph was argued in the Court of King's-Bench. Mr. Justice Buller stated all the proceedings in the trial; after which Mr. Bearcroft, as counsel for the prosecutor, showed cause why the rule should not be made absolute. His arguments were candid and ingenious; he was followed on the same side by Mr. Bowyer, and another counsel. Mr. Erskine then replied, and made a speech of two hours and a half, which was full of the most animated reasoning. At four o'clock Lord Mansfield said, "We are all of one opinion, but it is too late to deliver it, for we cannot read our notes." It was, therefore, adjourned.

TUESDAY, 16.

Lord Chief Justice Mansfield proceeded to deliver his opinion on Mr. Erskine's motion for a new trial. His lordship stated every case of libel, from the Revolution to the present time, that related in any respect to the motion before the court. In the course of the investigation he quoted the opinions of the most celebrated judges who have presided in the King's-Bench, Lord Chief Justices Holt, Forster, Lee, Wilmot, &c. His lordship touched but slightly upon the argument urged from the bar on Monday last, but was very copious and clear in calling to public attention the doctrines uniformly held by that court, "That the province of a jury, in cases of libel, was confined to the fact of publication, and the application of innuendoes, leaving the law completely to the decision of the court." After discussing the subject in a style of legal argument for near an hour, which scarcely any pen can follow, his lordship declared he was perfectly satisfied that the jury had discharged their duty in finding the fact as laid in the information, and applying the innuendoes; he should, therefore, refuse the motion for a new trial, by discharging the rule to show cause.

Mr. Justice Willes followed his lordship, and agreed with him in the general principles, but differed in opinion as to the particular case, where the construction of law is intimately connected with the fact. He mentioned several instances where this doctrine might apply, but it was not so in the present. He paid a very high compliment to the gentlemen at the bar, for the able and ingenious manner in which they had argued this case, particularly to Mr. Bearcroft. After some other observations, which tended to show his opinion very strongly in favour of the power of a jury in all criminal matters, he coincided with Lord Mansfield in discharging the rule.

Mr. Justice Ashurst, in a concise speech, delivered his opinion completely with the noble earl.

Judge Buller was silent.

The rule was consequently *discharged*.

Mr. Erskine immediately applied to the court for directions, as he intended to move an arrest of judgement. Lord Mansfield observed, that, although in strictness of practice, motions of that nature ought to be made within the first four days of term, yet, as the motion for a new trial and that for arrest of judgement could not come on together, Mr. Erskine was in time.

WEDNESDAY, 17.

This morning the nine following malefactors were executed before Newgate:—James Little and Kyran Ryan, for forging seamen's wills; William Hogben, for horse-stealing; William Rellions and William Callop, for robberies; James Forbeller, for a burglary; and George Drummond, Peter Le Roche, and Joseph Hulet, for stealing. On this occasion the executioner, by order of the Lord-Mayor and sheriffs, wore a black baize gown for the first time.

THURSDAY, 18.

Thomas Pierce was brought to the bar of the King's-Bench, to receive judgement on a conviction at the Old-Bailey, in the early part of the last mayoralty, for having attempted to set fire to his house in St. John's-street, with intent to defraud the new Insurance Company. Judge Buller reported the particulars of the trial, in which there appeared several aggravating circumstances; and Mr. Erskine, who was his counsel at the trial, entreated the court to consider that the prisoner had been surrendered by his bail, and suffered five months imprisonment already, which he hoped would go in mitigation of the offence. Mr. Bearcroft replied, that although the crime was in itself very atrocious, yet the defence set up, being of the most shameful and barefaced nature, certainly heightened it. However, he did not wish for any extraordinary severity. Mr. Justice Willes immediately passed sentence. The learned judge observed, that an attempt to defraud the Insurance Company constituted in itself a very high offence; but the injury to society at large was of infinitely greater magnitude; such crimes as these the law was very watchful to punish, by way of preventive. He, therefore, sentenced the prisoner to suffer two years imprisonment in Newgate, to stand in the pillory in West-Smithfield for the space of one hour, and at the expiration of his imprisonment to find security for his good behaviour for seven years, himself in two hundred pounds, and two sureties in one hundred each.

Same day the Court of King's-Bench was moved for a mandamus against an alderman of the city of Chester, for exercising that office contrary to the charter granted by Henry VII. The corporation, by that charter, ought to be annually elected by the commonalty at large, whereas, for a series of years, they have continued in their offices during life, and have been self-elected. Lord Mansfield, without hesitation, granted a rule to show cause. This cause, if properly followed up, bears a strong analogy to the reform in the boroughs at present agitated in Scotland.

FRIDAY,

FRIDAY, 19.

This morning a body of sailors, ship-carpenters, &c. to the amount of about a thousand or twelve hundred, assembled before the Queen's house, complaining of want of employment, and demanding a redress of grievances. After a long expostulation from Lord Sydney, who promised to make a proper enquiry into their grievances, they departed very peaceably*.

SATURDAY, 20.

This, day about one o'clock, about 150 sailors assembled in Welbeck-street, where Lord G. Gordon harangued them, and referred them to his and Mr. Pitt's letters in the publick papers, adding, that he wished them very well, but that he could not serve them without the approbation of the King and his ministers. A gentleman in the uniform of a lieutenant of the navy assisted his lordship on the occasion; both had blue and orange cockades in their hats, and the lieutenant had another at his bosom*.

In the court of King's-Bench the Attorney-General moved judgement against Christopher Atkinson, Esq. Mr. Bearcroft rose in defence of his client, and produced certain affidavits in his justification, which, after a few minutes consultation, were admitted by the court. The affidavit of Mr. George Slade, one of the commissioners of the Victualling-Office, was read. It stated at length the particulars of the accounts, the manner in which they were adjusted, with a balancing invoice, and the strong probability of the innocence of Mr. Atkinson, in a very exact and critical manner. The affidavits of Mr. Bates, Mr. Hanway, and other commissioners, and of Thomas Nevet, chief clerk, were also read, and the contents of them operated to Mr. Atkinson's disadvantage. Mr. Bearcroft, Mr. Wood, and Mr. Dallas then argued at great length on these affidavits, and entered minutely into the nature of Mr. Atkinson's accounts with the Victualling-Office. The scope of their arguments was to prove that a balance had always been struck between the total of the purchases and supplies, and the total of the invoices, and that this was the most accurate method of adjusting the accounts that could be devised. On this ground they contended, that since great part of the truth was not investigated, it was not too late for the court to order a new trial. Lord Mansfield said, the court could certainly grant a new trial if they thought it necessary. Mr. Atkinson then requested permission to say a few words, to which the judges assented. He endeavoured further to elucidate the manner of keeping his accounts with the Victualling-Office, and expressed such confidence of manifesting his innocence if a new trial should be granted, that in case of his failing he would cheerfully submit to the most ignominious punishment, or even death itself.—Lord Mansfield stopped the Attorney-General, who was going to reply, and immediately gave his opinion in a very particular manner, in which he recapitulated the whole of the circumstances of the trial, evidence, and conviction. His lordship remarked upon the situation in rank and life of Mr. Atkinson, and stated his reasons for wishing to have the fullest information from the

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commissioners, but that the affidavits had, in his opinion, turned much against the defendant. His lordship was upon the whole satisfied with the verdict of the jury, and should, therefore, refuse a new trial. Mr. Justice Ashurst gave a similar opinion, particularly remarking upon the defendant's making the supply at the market price, when it was well known the markets were under his own influence. (Here the defendant observed, that the market had nothing to do with the general account rendered to the commissioners.) Mr. Justice Buller coincided in opinion, and the court appointed a day to pass judgement. Two other affidavits, in justification of the mode in which the accounts were balanced, were offered to be produced, but were rejected by the court. Mr. Bearcroft then spoke in mitigation, and the Attorney-General in aggravation of the sentence. Mr. Atkinson again desiring to be heard, Lord Mansfield told him "there must be an end." The prisoner was then remanded.

This night's Gazette contains his Majesty's proclamation, commanding all masters of ships, pilots, mariners, seamen, ship-wrights, and other seafaring men, natural born subjects of England, who may have entered into the service of any foreign prince or state, without licence obtained, to return to their native countries; and forbidding all masters of ships, &c. to enter into the service of any foreign prince or state, without licence obtained, on pain of incurring his Majesty's displeasure, and being proceeded against for their contempt, according to the utmost severities of the law: declaring further, that all such masters of ships, &c. as shall be taken in any foreign service, by the Turks, Algerines, or others, shall not be reclaimed as subjects of Great-Britain.

An order has also been dispatched to all the out-ports, particularly those which are the nearest to France and Holland, not to permit any person whatever to go out of the kingdom, or to take shipping for the continent, unless furnished with the new passports which are now issuing from the secretary of state's office, copies of which have been sent off, in order that the forgeries of that kind, which have been hitherto but too common, may be the more easily detected.

MONDAY, 22.

The Rev. W. D. Shipley, Dean of St. Asaph, appeared in person in the court of King's-Bench, to receive judgement for publishing a libel, &c. Mr. Erskine made a motion in arrest of judgement, which he grounded on two reasons. I. That even if the publication were libellous, the verdict was not sufficient to warrant judgement. II. That the publication was not libellous. He desired the record to be read, in which he said the verdict had not been entered up according to the words delivered in court, and, therefore, was void in the whole. He contended that special verdicts in criminal cases cannot be amended from judges' notes, as they may in civil cases, but a *venire de nova* must issue. In support of his second leading objection, he insisted that there was nothing in the publication repugnant to government. As speaking for another, and not for himself, it was his duty to object not only to substance but to form, and to raise every possible barrier

barrier in defence of his client. It was, he said, a rule, that nothing extrinsic of the record should come into consideration, for every circumstance that went to charge criminality must be set forth on the record. This position he supported by three reasons. 1st, The charge must give such a description of the crime, that the defendant may know what he is to answer. 2d, The application of the charge to the circumstances which constitute the criminality must be left to the jury. 3d, If the terms of the libel be general, and the criminality be imputed to something *de hors* the libel, there wants something more to shew the crime upon the face of the record. Every fact descriptive of the charge, he insisted, must appear on the record, and when the meaning was ambiguous it must appear by innuendo.

Lord Mansfield said it would lie upon the counsel on the other side to shew a charge of criminality on the record, independent of any thing collateral. On this ground Mr. Bearcroft said he was not prepared, but would leave it to the other counsel, who he doubted not were. He did not controvert the principles laid down by Mr. Erskine, which he admitted were well founded. If the indictment was erroneous, it ought to be attributed to the haste with which it had been drawn, only one night having been allowed for that purpose. Mr. Cowper, Mr. Lytton, and Mr. Bowyer followed Mr. Bearcroft. They argued, that the seditious intent of the publication being plain to every understanding, the court would not say they did not understand it, and that where the meaning was so plain, innuendos and averments were not essential. Mr. Erskine was going to reply, but was prevented by Lord Mansfield, who said it was unnecessary, as the court had already formed their opinion. His lordship thought the verdict properly entered on the record, as it was plain that the jury, in the present instance, meant not to decide whether the matter published was a libel or not. They left that to the court. But the publication was not sufficiently charged in the indictment to constitute a crime; for the innuendos should shew the meaning to the court clearly and precisely. It was true the court would judge of the meaning of an allegory, but there must be innuendos on the record, and the criminal purpose must be clear. The libel complained of, he observed, was not a defamatory libel either on government, or on any individual; it was not defamatory of the King or any officer under him; but yet it was seditious, perhaps treasonable, as it excited the people to dissention. It incited them to petition for a reform in parliament, under pretence of rights taken from them. It excited to resistance in case such petition was rejected. What did it excite them to do? It said, you are to arm not when the danger comes, but now. There should have been averments in the indictment; for the criminality did not consist in what might have happened in the days of Adam, but in its application to the present times, and that application should have appeared upon the record, though it was understood by every body. Mr. Justice Willes, Mr. Justice Ashurst, and Mr. Justice Buller concurred, and the court ordered the judgement to be arrested. The whole proceedings against the Dean of St. Asaph are consequently set aside,

SCOTLAND.

WHILE the coldness of the summer, and the late appearance of the crop rendered the prospect of harvest doubtful and unpromising, men who were filled with apprehensions of approaching famine had but little attention to bestow on the transactions of parliament. In countries remote from the seat of government, the evil tendency of injudicious laws is seldom known till it be actually felt. This at least is one inconvenience attending the subjects of extensive empires. A very favourable and plentiful harvest having delivered the inhabitants of the highlands from the fear of wanting the necessaries of life, they are now desirous of enjoying such of its comforts as they have naturally been used to. This has called their attention to the distillery act, which commenced on the first of October, and as far as respects the Highland counties, appears to be the most coercive of any bill for the preservation of the revenue we have ever seen. It may not be improper to observe, that idleness, Whisky, and basking in the sun, are the only luxuries of which a Highlander has any idea, unless, perhaps, tobacco and snuff may be added to the number. The first article, which, from the sharpness of their air and the thinness of their diet, is perhaps as much a necessary as a luxury, they have always been accustomed to distill from their own barley, and we believe the duty was never equal to one third of the expence of collecting it. By the late act, no still is to be used of above twenty gallons English measure. The commissioners of Excise are to licence such persons as they think fit, to erect and work stills. In lieu of all duties, persons so licensed are to pay annually one pound sterling per English gallon for the content of every still specified in their licences. The commissioners are not to grant licences to tenants, without certificates of recommendation from their landlords. Unlicensed persons convicted of distilling, to forfeit the still, &c. and 100l. If the effects of the offender are not sufficient, the heritors of the parish are to make good the deficiency, and on payment are to have action against the principal offender. If any licensed tenant shall be convicted of keeping a larger still than specified in his licence, the landlord is to make good the penalty of 100l. after the sale of the offender's goods. The commissioners may withdraw licences at their discretion. And finally, for punishing the negligent and encouraging the diligent officers of Excise, if any officer shall discover or give information of any fraud specified in the act, so that the offender may be convicted, he is entitled to a reward of ten pounds, to be deducted out of the salary of the officer who did duty for three months preceding in that district in which the fraud was practised, and remained undiscovered.

To say nothing of the invidious and degrading office of spy and informer, which these obnoxious clauses impose on heritors and landlords, and their inevitable tendency to sow mutual enmity and distrust between two ranks of men, who ought always to depend on each other with the utmost confidence for mutual protection and support, the penalties are so little adapted to the circumstances of the country, that in almost every instance the heritors would be amerced for faults which their utmost vigilance would be insufficient to prevent. The tenants, who have little to lose, and

and who do not readily comprehend how that which is innocent in itself should be rendered criminal by act of parliament, will not easily be deterred by the fear of a punishment, the weight of which, as their own poverty exempts them from it, must fall upon others. Among people who are but little acquainted with the necessity of taxes, obedience to revenue laws is to be learned only by experience, and the levying of fines in some measure proportioned to their own ideas of the offence, not by enacting such heavy penalties as revenue officers dare not enforce.

The gentlemen of the different counties specified in the act have taken the matter into their serious consideration, and have published their resolutions, the purport of which is, "That the general tenour of the distillery laws, anterior to the present bill, was extremely ill adapted to the situation and circumstances of the Highlands. That for the comfort, convenience, and advantage of the highlands, some mitigation of these laws is absolutely necessary. That the present bill, so far from operating as a relief from the rigour of former statutes, will act as a total prohibition on distilling, the size of the still permitted being too small to make it worth the labour of the operator's attendance. That it innovates upon the most sacred rights of free-born subjects, in so far as it subjects one man to be liable for the crime of another, and obliges landholders to pay for the delinquencies not only of their own tenants, but those of their neighbours, forces gentlemen and magistrates to take up the mean and opprobrious office of spies and informers, and degrades the highest characters of the country to become subservient to the lowest officers of the Excise, and exposes them to have their fortunes torn away by the ill-grounded malice of the worst of mankind. That they are anxious to render every branch of the revenue productive; but feel themselves bound to declare their conviction, that this bill, if carried into effect, will in a few years depopulate the Highlands. That they do not conceive it at all difficult to frame such a law as will accommodate the Highlands, without prejudicing the revenue in this branch. That it is absolutely necessary to apply for a repeal of many of the provisions of the present statute, and they appoint committees to prepare petitions, and obviate difficulties by mutual correspondence. They resolve also to apply for no licence within their bounds, while the present law is in force; and to request the commissioners of Excise not to grant any license for distilling, till the further resolutions of parliament be known."—The act in question also empowers the commissioners of Excise to agree with Arthur Forbes, Esq. on a compensation for the exemption from Excise enjoyed by the inhabitants of Ferintosh, and another small district in the county of Inverness, or, in case of his refusing to enter into agreement, to bring it before the Lords of Session, to determine what compensation ought to be made. This exemption, if we remember right, was granted in the reign of King William, on account of some particular hardship to which these districts had been exposed. If so, how far is it equitable that Mr. Forbes should be allowed or compelled to sell what was not granted to him as the landlord, but to the inhabitants at large?

The spirit of reform is not on the decline, the result of the Irish congress, far from damping the ardour of those who have embarked in that arduous undertaking, affords them an opportunity of triumphing in their own superior firmness and moderation. Their aim has certainly been less; it remains to be seen if their success will be greater. The Chamber of Commerce and Manufactures in Glasgow, have voted a pair of pistols, richly ornamented, of the best workmanship that could be produced in Scotland, and finished in the style of the ancient Scottish armour, to be presented to the Marquis de Bouille, in testimony of their very high respect for the generous and humane conduct of that nobleman, in softening the horrors of war, by protecting the property of individuals, during his late command in the West-Indies. The praise of humanity surpasses the estimation of a thousand victories, and such testimonies from an enemy reflect equal honour on him who receives and those who bestow them.

I R E L A N D.

THE meeting of the Irish Congress which has been the object of so much expectation, has ended in nothing. It was held at Dublin on the 25th, 26th, and 27th of October, according to appointment. The delegates from only a small number of counties, over-awed by the menaces of the Attorney-General, or anxious for the preservation of public tranquility, assembled with a degree of caution bordering on timidity. Their first care was to clear the room, that their deliberations might be conducted in secrecy, and that nothing let fall in the warmth of debate might go abroad, to inflame the minds of the people. They seemed to forget, on this occasion, that the ardour of the people, without which their resolutions are but a dead letter, is not to be kept alive by secret councils. Instead of members of Congress, they adopted the name of National Delegates, and having elected Col. William Sharman president, and John Talbot Ashenhurst secretary, after sitting three days, they published the following resolutions:

"Resolved unanimously, That the people, in the largest sense of that word, have an undoubted right to state their grievances, to petition for a redress of them, and to propose remedies for the same, with that deference which is due to the legislature, and with that firmness which belongs to the people.

"Resolved unanimously, That this right belongs to the people with peculiar extent and energy on the subject of parliamentary reform, seeing that such defect as that now complained of in the legislature is incapable of remedy but through the exertion of the people, and if not remedied would destroy their share in the legislature, and of course the balance and freedom of the constitution.

"Resolved unanimously, That to combat this evil the people have a right to confer with each other, the better to digest such mode of redress as they may wish to recommend to parliament; and that the mode of conferring which most conduces to just investigation, and is least subject to disorder, is best.

"Resolved unanimously, That the meeting in

one place of persons selected by the people for that purpose, in preference to the meeting in multitudes at various and distant places, is obviously most conducive to concord and sound decision.

" Resolved unanimously, That a reform in the representation of the people in parliament is indispensibly necessary.

" Resolved unanimously, That we esteem it fortunate, that in this great pursuit there is no competition of interest between the sister nations of Great-Britain and Ireland, but that on the contrary a reform of parliament is equally desired in each kingdom by the wisest and honestest men in both.

" Resolved unanimously, That the appointment of this assembly by the people, and the steps they have taken from time to time on this subject, have been constitutional, and calculated to procure the aid and co-operation of the legislature in that salutary work.

" Resolved, That this assembly do hereby address the counties, counties or cities, and great towns, who have not yet been represented therein, recommending it to each of them respectively to elect delegates for that purpose before the 20th of January next, and to exhort them, as they respect their own consistency, as they wish for the success of a parliamentary reform, and as they tender the perpetual liberty and prosperity of their country, to seize this opportunity of effecting that great and necessary confirmation of the constitution.

" Resolved unanimously, That the thanks of this assembly be given to our worthy president, William Sharman, Esq. for his very upright, able, and spirited conduct in the chair.

" Resolved unanimously, That the thanks of this assembly be given to our worthy member, John Talbot Athenhurst, Esq. for acting as secretary, and for his proper conduct and attention to this assembly.

" Resolved unanimously, That this assembly adjourn to the 20th day of January next, then to meet in Dublin.

" W. SHARMAN, President.

" J. T. ASHENHURST, Secretary."

The Bishop of Derry was elected a delegate by the town of Belfast, but did not think proper to attend the meeting, which some have attributed to the want of political courage. That the meeting in January will be better attended than that in October is not very probable. The Attorney-General is busy in moving informations against those who signed and published the resolutions at the late county meetings, from which it would seem, that government is determined to pursue vigorous measures. The volunteers, at variance among themselves, can no longer assert that they speak the concurring sentiments of the people. What unanimity might have accomplished, dissention bids fair to ruin.

In the mean time, every mail from Dublin is filled with accounts of the depredations committed by the numerous banditti whom idleness and a contempt for laws which they have been taught to despise, have let loose on the public. Besides the frequent instances of robbery and murder perpetrated on the highways, and in the very streets of Dublin, in the most open and

daring manner, men's houses are forced open and plundered by gangs of armed ruffians, who treat the victims of their cruelty or lust with a brutality unknown to savages.

Last month afforded a defiance to law of another sort, which shews the state of civilization in some parts of Ireland. On the 16th of October, two companies of soldiers were ordered from Cashel, to assist in putting Mr. Collins, of Clonmel, in possession of a farm at Ballynulta, which was forcibly detained from him by the tenant. On their arrival they found the defendants so strongly entrenched, that though only nine in number, they repulsed the entire two companies, with above one hundred gentlemen; killed three soldiers, wounded the surgeon and seventeen privates, and took a drum and twelve stand of arms. So artfully had they constructed their subterraneous garrison, that on the 28th a party of artillery, with two field pieces, and one hundred men of the 47th regiment, were ordered against them. On the arrival of this force they retreated precipitately, leaving behind one of their companions, who had been wounded in the former attack.

WEST-INDIES.

BETWEEN the 29th of July and the 3d of August a violent hurricane did considerable damage. The following are the most authentic particulars of what happened in Jamaica, where it was felt more severely than in any other of the British possessions.

On Friday the 30th of July, after a fine, close, and warm day, the sun appearing more red than usual, and the hills being clear of those cloudy caps which usually cover them, about five in the evening the sky all of a sudden began to look extremely angry, the sea in the harbour of Kingston rose in swells, without any apparent cause, as there was little wind stirring; the sun set in blood; and when the moon, which was near the full, arose soon after, there was a duski-ness across her disk, all which foreboded what was afterwards experienced. At seven o'clock the wind shifted, and began to blow fresh; on which occasion the ships in Kingston and Port-Royal harbour, many of which were preparing to get away, remooed. Captains and other officers, who were on shore regaling, made haste to get on board their ships. By ten o'clock the gale increased to such a degree, that there was no such thing as a boat living; the small craft were all drawn up on shore. At midnight the hurricane had increased to an alarming height; the clouds exceeding low and black; and a violent torrent of rain issuing from them. At two in the morning a smart shock of an earthquake was felt, which caused the people to get out of their beds, and many ran naked into the fields. By this shock the new barracks at Kingston were levelled with the ground, and several soldiers killed and wounded. Within a few minutes after another shock was also felt, but less severe, though accompanied with a hollow noise, as of thunder, which went gradually off in about four minutes. By four o'clock in the morning, a prodigious devastation was made in Kingston. At six the gale began to moderate; and by nine it was so

near

A M E R I C A.

near over, that boats ventured off. The morning discovered an awful sight; the wrecks of vessels, some of the ships still at anchor, but many dismasted, and mere wrecks; among which were the *Flora* frigate, of 36 guns, Capt. Montagu, which flung most of her guns overboard, and was obliged to cut away all her masts. Neither the ships at Port-Royal, nor the place, suffered so much as might have been expected. Some houses were blown down at New Greenwich, and a few at Spanish-Town. In St. George's parish, at Crawford-Town, they had seven people killed. In the harbour of Port-Morant four vessels were lost. In Manchineel two were lost, and a number of craft. In the parish of St. Thomas in the East, which is at the S. E. point of the island, the most damage was done. The number of people killed was above 170 in the whole island, chiefly slaves.

By subsequent accounts, it appears that much less damage has been sustained than was at first apprehended. It was a fortunate circumstance that above sixty sail of loaded ships sailed for Europe four days before the hurricane. The lieutenant-governour of Jamaica immediately granted, during pleasure, a free trade with the American states, to enable the inhabitants to repair their losses as quickly as possible.

By letters from St. Vincent's, it appears that the Caribbs, being provided with arms, and instructed in the rudiments of military discipline, by the French, are the cause of continual alarm to the British planters of that and the neighbouring island of Union. They are said to possess a third of the island, and that the most valuable part, which may be one reason for the irreconcilable hatred that subsists between them and the planters.

E A S T - I N D I E S.

A Copy of the treaty of peace and alliance negotiated by Mr. David Anderson with the Mahratta nation, was received some time ago, by which it appears that matters are established pretty nearly on their antient footing. Accounts of a later date are of a very agreeable nature. Every thing seems to promise a firm and lasting peace with the country powers, and favourable seasons have restored the desolated provinces to plenty. Cash, it is acknowledged, is at present a scarce article. The Company's exchequer is nevertheless said to be recruiting, and their affairs on the whole to wear a flourishing aspect. On the 23d of April last, the Major Indiaman was destroyed by fire, as she lay at her moorings at Culpee, about forty miles below Calcutta. The ship had been infested with a kind of beetle, to clear her of which it was found necessary to fumigate the hold previous to taking her cargo on board. In performing this operation the forehold by some accident caught fire, which communicated to a quantity of saltpetre, that had been taken on board as ballast. In half an hour the ship blew up, and the fourth mate and nine seamen perished by the explosion.

Within these few days a report has been circulated of a very melancholy nature, respecting the fate of General Matthews and the troops who were captured with him, but we know not on what foundation.

BY extracts from the journals of Congress, dated in May last, it appears that the court of Versailles has been very liberal and indulgent in their commercial advantages held out to the American States, and most particularly so in granting them free ports. It is stated in those journals, that the King of France has granted to the Americans the ports of L'Orient, Bayonne, Dunkirk, and Marseilles, as free ports; the first of which enjoys absolute freedom, the other is restrained in the exercise of that freedom only with regard to tobacco, which is there subjected to a duty. The Americans may now send their vessels to these four ports without difficulty or molestation. At Dunkirk, particularly, they will find every facility they can desire for the sale of their leaf tobacco, their rice, timber, and other merchandise, as well as for the purchase of what they want, such as linens, woollens, brandy, &c. It is also proposed to establish well-furnished magazines on terms very advantageous to their commerce; and the farmers-general have orders to treat in preference, and at a reasonable price, for the purchase of the tobaccos of North-America.

The trade of America has justly excited a rivalry among European nations, who have been running a race with one another to secure the greatest share, forgetting that trade with free states can neither be forced nor forestalled. It has been part of the infatuation of the times to send great quantities of goods to America, where the markets have been so overstocked by this sudden influx, that European goods have been purchased there considerably under prime cost. Remittances in money could not be made, and returns in produce were necessarily too slow to answer the demands of those who had inconsiderately stretched their credit in sending out merchandise on speculation. This has been the ruin of many of the first adventurers, both in France and in England, and many more bankruptcies of the same sort must inevitably follow. The Americans have not as yet manifested an inclination to be punctual in their returns, and it is well known that more European goods have already arrived in their ports than their exports for a whole year would be sufficient to pay for.

The laws, it is said, lately enacted in the state of Pennsylvania strike at the root of slavery: no negro is in future to be held a slave after the age of twenty-eight years. This humane and liberal policy seems not to be universal. The numerous emigrants whom poverty and oppression have driven from Scotland and Ireland are advertised and described for sale in the public papers like cattle, to defray the expence of their passage. This, we believe, is called by the softer name of being indentured as servants for a term of years; but we have been informed from good authority, that no state of slavery is more abject, and that there are not wanting masters, who boast that they can so dexterously proportion labour and indulgence, as to bring a man's life and his indenture pretty nearly to the same period. If we are to credit the American newspapers, above 11,000 emigrants from Europe have arrived in the port of Philadelphia alone in the course of one year. Other accounts, with more probability, compute the numbers that may have landed on the whole continent, within the year, at 12,000 or 13,000.

The

The legislative system for regulating their trade with the East-Indies has been issued by Congress. It strongly recommends to the States and to the traders to that quarter in particular, not to aim at territorial possession in the East, but to trade quietly, by such regulations as the free ports of China and India allow, and according to the treaties with France and Portugal, they leave each separate state to regulate the duties on India goods imported as they shall think fit.

A correspondent has favoured us with the following state of the extent and population of the Thirteen United States of America, as authenticated by Congress:

	Miles, Length & Br. Inhab.		
Massachusetts's Bay	120	by 90	400,000
New Hampshire	180	80	150,000
Rhode-Island	30	20	57,000
Connecticut	85	56	192,000
New-York	250	87	250,000
Pennsylvania	200	200	350,000
East and West-Jersey	95	44	130,000
Delaware Counties	77	17	—
Maryland	88	88	320,000
Virginia	240	180	650,000
North-Carolina	170	95	300,000
South-Carolina	570	120	225,000
Georgia	500	120	—

FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

IN their late unsuccessful expedition against Algiers, the Spaniards were assisted by four ships of the line, with a proportional number of frigates and galleys from Malta and Naples. The combined armament, consisting of 130 vessels, carrying 827 pieces of cannon, and 147 men, sailed from Carthage on the 28th of June, under the command of Don Antonio Barcelo. This fleet had on board 12,000 bombs, 30,000 bullets, and 80,000 quintals of powder, besides an image of the Holy Virgin, a plenary indulgence, and the pontifical benediction in *articulo mortis*, which Don Antonio Barcelo had obtained from the Pope for all who should fight under his command. A squadron of Portuguese joined him at sea. What devotional preparations the Algerines had made for his reception we are not informed; but they had converted seven of their galleys into bombardiers, erected new batteries on the advanced moles, secured the weakest parts of the town by various entrenchments, and provided sixty gun-boats, which were of signal service in repelling the enemy. On the 9th of July the Spaniards arrived in the bay, and made their first attempt on the 12th. Between this and the 21st they renewed the attack eight several times, and as often retired with loss, being always opposed with greater vigour and a greater number of gun-boats. On the night of the 21st a council of war was held, the result of which was, that their stock of ammunition and provisions being nearly expended, the numbers and confidence of the enemy daily increasing, it was judged expedient to abandon the enterprize. Preparations for sailing were accordingly made, but the badness of the weather obliged them to cut their cables on the 23d, and steer for Carthage, leaving upwards of 100 anchors behind them. By letters from Al-

giers, it appears that only four shells fell into the town, and these did no material damage. The last attack was desperate on both sides. In it the Algerines were seen with astonishing boldness pursuing the Spanish sloops within musket shot of their large ships. In order to preserve the strangers in his interest, the Bey took care to secure them from the rage of the people, by posting 500 janissaries in the villages and gardens to which the Franks resorted, with strict orders to hang up, without any process, whoever should offer them the least violence. Great hopes were entertained of this expedition, and various reasons are assigned for its miscarriage. The most obvious seems to be the natural strength of the place, the valour of the defenders, and the diligence they had exerted in preparing for an attack, of which they were so fully apprized. The enterprize, it is given out, is to be prosecuted next year with a still greater force.

The Emperor of Germany, as a preparation for extending his temporal dominions, having filled his treasury, by appropriating the revenues of the church, and resuming those rich grants which his ancestors had bestowed for the support of ignorance and error, bent his views to the recovery of those possessions which had been wrested from his family in the ebb of their fortunes. On the rupture between the Dutch and the English, he was intreated by the citizens of Antwerp to avail himself of so favourable an opportunity for restoring the decayed glory of their city, which is formed by nature for commerce, and before the shutting up of the Scheldt, by the treaty of Munster, was justly considered as the emporium of the world. His Imperial Majesty then replied, that he respected the faith of treaties. The citizens of Antwerp admired his virtue, but regretted his want of political prudence. Having succeeded, however, in dismantling the barrier towns, which naturally presented itself as the first part of his plan, and taking advantage of the listlessness and desire of repose which naturally succeed to war, he considered treaties as no longer sacred that were originally imposed on his ancestors by force, and among a variety of other pretensions which the inexhaustible claims of his house easily enabled him to set up, he demanded the free and uninterrupted navigation of the Scheldt, with the demolition of the forts built to obstruct it. Perhaps the opportunity which he chose for advancing this claim, was more favourable than that which he neglected. It is more difficult to rouse nations to war who have but just begun to enjoy the blessings of peace, than to turn their force when prepared, and in actual exertion, against a new enemy. Add to this, the domestic broils in which the Dutch were engaged, while one party, in the interest of France, wished to deprive the Stadtholder of all authority, and another, supported by the King of Prussia, to invest him with sovereign power. The Emperor prosecuted his demands with firmness and vigour. The Dutch resisted with their usual pertinacity and phlegm. They insisted on the treaty of Munster in 1648, as unequivocally binding on the successors of Philip Count of Austria, and Duke of Burgundy, on the barrier treaty, and the treaty of Vienna. But after the repeated infractions on

the part of the republic of all the stipulations in the treaty of Munster that were advantageous to the Austrian provinces, he considered them as disengaged from the unnatural yoke which the 14th article of that treaty imposed, by shutting the entrance of the Scheldt against them. Memorial followed memorial. Their High Mightinesses requested the interposition of their French ally, and dispatched a squadron of observation to watch the entrance of the Scheldt. The court of France exhorted them to propose such terms of accommodation as might be the basis of an arrangement to the mutual advantage of the Emperour and the republic, and to refrain from all measures, which, by wounding the dignity of the former, might procrastinate the desired reconciliation. On the 17th of September, the Emperour delivered his ultimatum to the Dutch plenipotentiaries at Brussels. To demonstrate his disinterestedness, and his desire to live in good friendship with the republic, he was willing to renounce his incontestible rights on the city of Maestricht, the country of Vroenhoven, and the Dutch Outremeuse, with all other objects in dispute, if, on the other hand, the latter would acknowledge the opening and absolute liberty of the Scheldt: but in the mean time, it was his intention to exercise his right in re-establishing that navigation immediately, and that he should consider the least insult offered to his flag as a declaration of war, and a formal act of hostility on the part of the republic. Pursuant to this resolution, an Imperial brigantine was prepared at Antwerp, and care was taken to call the attention of Europe to the issue of her sailing. On the 8th of October she appeared on the western passage of the Scheldt, called *Le Hout*, and being questioned by the commander of a cutter belonging to Admiral Reynst's Squadron, the captain declared that he meant to pass into the sea, by order of the Emperour, who had declared the Scheldt open. The Dutch commander entreated him to return, or to cast anchor. From entreaties he proceeded to remonstrances, from remonstrances to threats, and at length discharged a gun loaded with ball at the brigantine. The Austrian captain pursued his course, and waved in his hand the Imperial mandate. The Dutchman, finding all but force ineffectual, fired his broadside, on which the Austrian immediately dropped anchor, and protested formally against the insult to the Imperial flag. Much about the same time, another vessel, in attempting to go up the Scheldt from Ostend, was stopped in the same manner. The Emperour having thus reduced the Dutch to the necessity of commencing hostilities, that he might furnish their new allies with a colourable pretext for refusing their assistance if they should be so disposed, immediately broke off the conferences at Brussels, and recalled his ambassador from the Hague. The Dutch denied that what was done in defence of their just rights could be considered as an act of hostility, and manifested an earnest desire for further negotiation. Nor were they slow in their preparations for a vigorous defence, or in their applications to foreign courts. What regard for an ancient ally had not effected since the late peace, a sense of danger expedited in a few days, and their am-

bassador, Baron Lynden, arrived in London early in November. Having been drawn into an equivocal act of hostility, they were not so scrupulous about committing another of a less doubtful nature. Alarmed by the movements of the Austrian troops on their frontiers, on the 7th of November they opened one of their dykes, near Fort Lillo, by which means a large tract of country was overflowed. They attempted to open a second, but were prevented by a detachment of Imperial troops, and several shot were exchanged between the two parties. The powers of Europe have been slow in declaring themselves on this occasion. At present it is not known what part any court will take. Mean time speculation is afloat, and various conjectures are formed of their intentions. Some have supposed a partition of the United Provinces between France, Prussia, and the Emperour to be in agitation. Others, that they are to be stripped of their commerce, and subjected to the dominion of the Prince of Orange, with the authority, and perhaps the title, of King. The first supposition is too improbable to deserve any credit; and as to the second, the man must possess more than common political effrontery, who will dare to assume the government of a people, whose interests he has sold in the face of the world for the privilege to rule over them. Should France and Prussia remain neuter, as England at present seems wisely inclined to do, the contest between the principals will not be so unequal as is generally imagined. We believe the power of the Emperour to be great, but somewhat less than it is represented. We grant that the vigour of the republic is on the decline, but not so much decayed but that unanimity arising from a sense of danger not only to the more remote and general interests of the state, but to the immediate and particular interest of every individual may restore it for a time. His treasury is full but not inexhaustible. Their ready money is less, but their resources are greater and more certain. A state that rose into existence through such accumulated difficulties will not expire without a struggle. In the war with England they were totally unprepared, and torn by faction. On the present occasion there is but one sentiment. An unanimity and dispatch prevails in their councils which have long been strangers there. That they do not speak the language of despondence that has been attributed to them sufficiently appears from the following paragraph, with which they conclude a paper delivered to the Comte Belgiojoso at Brussels, on the 30th of October, on being informed of the recall of the Imperial minister at the Hague:

"The Republick, far from being considered in the light of a power having acted offensively, still persist in their peaceable dispositions; but if unfortunately such dispositions can have no influence on the mind of his Imperial Majesty, though the States still preserve some hopes to the contrary, the Republic will find itself in the disagreeable necessity of having recourse to such means as the right of nature and nations entitles it to; hoping that Divine Providence, and the applauding voice of the neutral powers, will assist in maintaining the republick in the just defence of its dearest rights."

PRICES of STOCKS, &c. in NOVEMBER, 1784.

Compiled by C. DOMVILLE, Stock-Broker, No. 95, Cornhill.

Day	Bank Stocks.	3 per C. reduced	3 per C. consols.	4 per C. consols.	5 per C.	Long Ann.	Short Ann.	India Stock	India Ann.	India Bonds Par. Idif.	Old Ann.	New Ann.	Navy Bills.	Exch Bills. 2 P.	Lottery Tickets.	Wind Deal	Weath. London
27	101 1/2	54 1/2	54 1/2 a 3/4	70 1/4	88 1/2	16 1/4 a 1/2	12 1/2		53 1/2		53 1/2		17 1/2		15 7	NE	Rain
28	110 1/2		54 1/2 a 3/4	70 1/4	88	16 1/4 a 1/2	12 1/2						17 1/2		15 6	NE	
29	111 1/2	54 1/2	54 1/2 a 3/4	70 1/4	88	16 1/4 a 1/2					53 1/2	54	17 1/2		15 4	NE	Fair
30	Sunday		54 1/2 a 3/4	70 1/4	88	16 1/4 a 1/2							17 1/2		15 7	NE	Rain
31																	
1	110 1/2	54 1/2	54 1/2 a 3/4	70 1/4	88	16 1/4 a 1/2	12 1/2	128		3		54 1/2	17 1/2		15 7	SW	
2	110 1/2	54 1/2	54 1/2 a 3/4	70 1/4	88	16 1/4 a 1/2	12 1/2			2		54 1/2	17 1/2	4	15 6	SW	
3		54 1/2	54 1/2 a 3/4	70 1/4	88	16 1/4 a 1/2	12 1/2		57 1/2				17 1/2		15 9	SE	
4		54 1/2	54 1/2 a 3/4	70 1/4	88	16 1/4 a 1/2	12 1/2			1			17 1/2		15 11	E	Fair
5	Holiday																
6		54 1/2	54 1/2 a 3/4	70 1/4	88	16 1/4 a 1/2	12			2		53 1/2	17 1/2		15 12	NE	Rain
7	Sunday	54 1/2	54 1/2 a 3/4	69 3/4	88	16 1/4 a 1/2	12		57 1/2	2			17 1/2		15 13	NE	Fair
8	110	54 1/2	54 1/2 a 3/4			16 1/4 a 1/2											Rain
9	Holiday																
10	110 1/2	54 1/2	54 1/2 a 3/4	69 3/4	87	16 1/4 a 1/2	12		57 1/2		53 1/2	53 1/2	17 1/2		15 13	SW	
11	110 1/2	53 1/2	54 1/2 a 3/4	69 3/4	87	16 1/4 a 1/2	12	128		2			17 1/2		15 17	SW	
12	110 1/2	53 1/2	54 1/2 a 3/4	69 3/4	87	16 1/4 a 1/2	12			2			17 1/2		15 19	SW	
13		54 1/2	54 1/2 a 3/4	70	87	16 1/4 a 1/2	12 1/2			2		54 1/2	17 1/2		15 19	SW	
14	Sunday																
15	110 1/2	54 1/2	54 1/2 a 3/4	69 3/4	88	16 1/4 a 1/2	12 1/2	127 1/2	57 1/2	2	53 1/2		17 1/2	3	15 19	SW	
16		54 1/2	54 1/2 a 3/4	70	88	16 1/4 a 1/2	12 1/2			2			17 1/2	3	15 18	W	
17	110 1/2	54 1/2	54 1/2 a 3/4	69 3/4	88	16 1/4 a 1/2	12 1/2		57 1/2	1	53 1/2	54 1/2	17 1/2		15 14	SW	
18	110 1/2	53 1/2	54 1/2 a 3/4	70	88	16 1/4 a 1/2	12 1/2			1			17 1/2		15 18	SW	
19	110 1/2	54 1/2	54 1/2 a 3/4	70	88	16 1/4 a 1/2	12 1/2			1			17 1/2	2	16 0	NW	
20		54 1/2	54 1/2 a 3/4	70	88	16 1/4 a 1/2	12 1/2			1			17 1/2		16 8	NW	Fair
21	Sunday																Rain
22	111 1/2	53 1/2	54 1/2 a 3/4	70	88	16 1/4 a 1/2	12 1/2		57 1/2	1		54 1/2	17 1/2			W	
23		54 1/2	54 1/2 a 3/4	70	88	17	12 1/2			1			17 1/2			NW	
24		54 1/2	54 1/2 a 3/4	70	88	17	12 1/2			1	54					SW	
25	112	54 1/2	54 1/2 a 3/4	70	88	17	12 1/2			3						NW	
26																N	

N. B. In the 3 per Cent Consols. the highest and lowest Price of each Day is given; in the other Stocks the highest Price only.

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